Irked Comelec orders speedier Lanao count

STORY ON PAGE A2

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2001 ★★ 66 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 188 ₱15

Iligan blast kills 2

ILIGAN CITY—Two persons were killed and at least 36 others were wounded when a grenade exploded at the Pala-o supermarket here at 7:30 p.m. yesterday. Rene Bantilan and Gerry Alido both died while being treated at the Gregorio Lluch Memorial Hospital here. Police said the explosive was a fragmentation grenade thrown from a passing vehicle. The incident happened on the eve of the celebration of the Araw ng Iligan today. At least two of those wounded were children. They were identified as Julius Laguda, 10, and his sister Mary Grace, 6. *Christine Godinez-Ortega, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

IN *Saturday*SPECIAL

- **Ricky Martin and other Latino singers rule the charts**
- **Hollywood's got a new star named DVD**
- **Ishmael Bernal, way back when**

MARTIN

Abu keeps 2 teens in spite of ransom

Red Cross doctor denies negotiating for release

DENNIS SABANGAN

DR. HUDA LIM denies talking to the bandits for the release of hostages.

NOT quite welcome in a sleepy village but there's a war out there and the 5th Marine Battalion is on its way to Maluso, Basilan, to hunt down the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

DENNIS SABANGAN

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The military yesterday dashed hopes that the Abu Sayyaf had released two of its female hostages in Basilan, but the military official who earlier made the claim insisted that ransom had been paid.

"The reported release has not happened," Agence France Presse quoted Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan, spokesperson of the Armed Forces, as saying. "There is no release as of this morning, so the two hostages have not been released."

The military source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the INQUIRER Thursday that hostages Kimberly (not Letty, as reported) Jao and Lalaine Chua were released in exchange for P5 million each.

He said then that the payment was made to the Abu Sayyaf three days ago through the negotiation of Dr. Huda Lim of the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC).

Yesterday, the military source said in Filipino: "Our soldiers are pitiful. They're in a war, pursuing the Abu Sayyaf, and then ransom is being paid."

The military source said the release of Kimberly, 15, and Lalaine, 12, did not push through Thursday. He did not say why.

However, he stood by his disclosure that money had changed hands.

"That is why the identity of the negotiator was presented—to put a total stop to the negotiations," he told the INQUIRER.

But Lim, an integrated provincial hospital officer and a PNRC physician based in Basilan, denied involvement.

"I have not spoken to any member of the (two) families. I do not know where this report came from, and I am surprised that my name is

ABU/ A15

Chavit brokering Abu chiefs' surrender

BY ALEXANDER M. YOUNG,
JULIE ALIPALA-INOT
PDI Mindanao Bureau
AND JULIET L. JAVELLANA

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson is deep in another "breakthrough" role: brokering the surrender of Galib Andang alias Kumander Robot and other leaders of the Sulu faction of the Abu Sayyaf.

Singson, who made the "jueteng" exposé that led to the ouster of President Joseph Estrada, said he had received surrender feelers from the bandit faction that, he said, was eager to drop its ways and go mainstream.

Faction leaders Mujib Susukan and Radulan Sajiron are supposedly also contemplating surrender.

Singson said 17 of Andang's men could follow suit once they were assured that it would be safe for them to turn themselves in.

Singson quoted Andang as saying that the May 27 hostage taking at Dos Palmas resort in Palawan was not his making, and that he and his men never participated in it.

According to Singson, Andang pinned the abductions on Basilan-based Abu Sabaya and his men, who, Andang said, were beyond his influence.

In Manila, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson told reporters that Singson had announced in a radio interview from Zamboanga that Andang and company were set

CHAVIT/ A15

Erap men offer critical collaboration

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM
AND MARTIN P. MARFIL

TWO opposition leaders yesterday dangled the issue of house arrest for jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada in apparent exchange for a more cooperative Senate and House of Representatives, but Malacañang turned down the offer of what it called "critical collaboration."

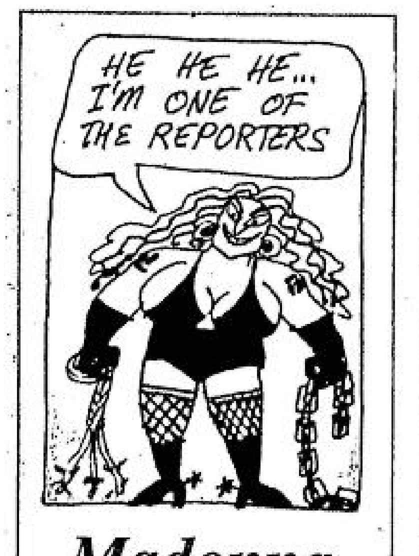
Amid the politicking, a court drama unfolded at the Sandiganbayan as two judges in charge of a perjury case against the deposed leader withdrew from the case.

Justices Narciso Nario and Nicodemo Ferrer of the Sandiganbayan's fourth division have asked Francis Garchitorena, the court's presiding justice, to re-assign the case to another division.

In a press conference yesterday, Senator-elect Edgardo Angara and Agapito "Butz" Aquino said the opposition's dealings with the Macapagal administration would depend on how the government treats Estrada.

Angara and Aguino are president and secretary general, respectively, of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, a major party of the opposition coalition Puwersa ng Masa.

ERAP/ A15



HE HE HE... I'M ONE OF THE REPORTERS

Madonna ticket for sex

BERLIN—A German Internet website has offered Madonna fans a ticket for a sold-out concert in Berlin next week in exchange for having sex with one of its reporters, the publisher of online magazine Thema1 said.

Thema1 publisher Bernd Heusinger said 22 readers had already applied for a chance to win the ticket to

MADONNA/ A4

Aguinaldo slay suspect says he's innocent

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA AND GERALD G. LACUARTA

A FREELANCE sales agent wanted for the murder of former Marcos military intelligence officer and Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo voluntarily surfaced yesterday to protest his innocence.

"I am not involved in the killing and I came here to clear my name," said Felix M. Robrigado, 26, who made a "voluntary appearance" with his lawyer at the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) in Quezon City yesterday.

Robrigado, a resident of Cavite, was included as a suspect in the case after Cagayan police found his University of the Philippines identification card in an apartment rented by alleged communist gunmen following Aguinaldo's assassination in Tuguegarao City on Tuesday.

But Robrigado said that he lost the ID along with a belt bag while he was doing research among peasants in Cagayan a couple of years ago.

Robrigado said he had an alibi: He was with his wife Lorna in Cavite when armed men killed Aguinaldo and his policeman-driver near the latter's apartment in Tuguegarao.

He added that he learned of the murders—later owned by the New People's Army's Fortunato Camus Command in

AGUINALDO/ A4

FAMILY tragedy: Aguinaldo's only sister, Luz, arrives from the United States and throws herself at her brother's coffin. At extreme right is the murdered congressman's 84-year-old father, Felix.

VAL HANDUMON

Gov't urged to continue talks in Oslo

BY VILLAMOR VISAYA JR.,
JULIET JAVELLANA,
AYAN MELLEJOR
AND ALLAN NAWAL

AN ARMY general and an archbishop yesterday urged the government to continue holding talks with the National Democratic Front (NDF) despite the assassination of Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo by the New People's Army.

The government panel led by Silvestre Bello III pulled out of the talks in Oslo, Norway, to protest the killing of Aguinaldo.

But its decision irked the NDF, which yesterday said that it would no longer talk peace with the

GOV'T/ A4

As promised, power rates to be cut next month

BY CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO
AND RONNEL W. DOMINGO

EXPECT some relief for now in the bills you are paying for utilities, with power rates going down in August and oil and water rates not likely to increase in the immediate future.

Energy Secretary Vicente Perez said yesterday that a 30-centavo per kilowatt-hour cut in power rates would take effect in July and would be reflected in the August billing of electric users.

Perez said he met with Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho and officials of the National Power Corp. the other day and decided to approve the new power rate cut.

The 30-centavo power rate cut for residential consumers is mandated by the Power Reform Act, which President Macapagal-Arroyo signed into law last week.

The new law seeks the privatization of the debt-laden Napocor and the restructuring of the power industry.

The President had said that Republic Act 9136 would lead to lower power rates.

"That was the promise of the President so we are keeping that promise," Perez said over dzRH radio station.

The law will take effect before the end of the month following its publication in major newspapers Monday.

AS/ A5

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Second FRONT PAGE

BILISAN NYO NA!

Comelec orders speedier Lanao count

BY GERALD G. LACUARTA

DECIDING it had had enough, the Commission on Elections yesterday ordered the canvassing of Lanao del Sur votes speeded up in order to have a final tally of winning senators in three days.

The Comelec en banc, in a two-page resolution, approved lawyer Rufus Rodriguez's motion seeking a separate canvass of the senatorial votes after protests in the canvass for local bets had slowed the proceedings.

Rodriguez, immigration commissioner in the Estrada administration, is the lawyer of former first lady Sen. Luisa Ejercito.

In the latest count, Sen. Ralph Recto had overtaken Ejercito and Sen. Gregorio Honasan after eight municipal certificates of canvass (COC) were counted. Recto has 13,295 votes while Ejercito and Honasan had 10,705 and 9,002, respectively.

Rodriguez said he would question the results in Tugaya town, one of two canvassed yesterday, where Ejercito got only 39 votes while Recto received 2,437. He said that in at least eight precincts in the town, all the candidates of the administration's People Power Coalition received the same number of votes while all the opposition Puwersa ng Masa bets got zero.

"It is statistically impossible and simply fantastic that all the PPC candidates would get the same number of votes, and all the votes at that, while no PnM candidate would get a single vote," Rodriguez said.

The canvassing almost ground to a halt Thursday when lawyers of local candidates argued the whole day over the COC of Ganassi town, the only certificate canvassed that day. Before that, the board of canvassers (BOC) was able to canvass only five COCs in three days.

Commissioner Rex Borra said the Comelec en banc has given Ray Sumalipao, chair of the Lanao del Sur BOC, until Tuesday to complete the canvass of all 39 COCs in the province.

The National Board of Canvassers (NBC) would then reconvene to complete the national canvass and determine the final standings of Ejercito, Recto and Honasan who are in 11th to 13th place, respectively.

"The en banc decided to grant Rodriguez's motion to segregate the canvassing of votes for the national level from the local level because of the numerous objections raised by lawyers of the local candidates," Borra said.

Borra said the NBC would also hear Rodriguez's twin petitions contesting 114,027 votes for Recto in eight towns of Maguindanao and one town in Lanao del Norte.

The NBC itself came under heavy criticism after the May 14 elections for the slow pace of the national canvassing at the Philippine International Convention Center which took all of 17 days until it was suspended on June 4 with 101 of 102 COCs canvassed.

The Lanao del Sur BOC was able to canvass only two municipal COCs yesterday, that of Malabang and Tugaya, but Rodriguez said 10 COCs are scheduled to be opened today after the canvass proceedings are segregated.

In Malabang, Recto got 2,934 votes while Ejercito received 1,924 votes and Honasan got 1,698.

In Tugaya, Recto received 2,437 votes, Honasan 143 and Ejercito got only 39 votes.

Rodriguez said he would file a petition to open the election returns to compare them with the statement of votes per precinct in Tugaya where the PPC candidates got the same number of votes while the entire PnM slate received none at all in at least eight precincts.

In the latest national tally, Recto leads Honasan by 22,836 votes. Ejercito standing could also be affected because she leads Recto by only 69,566 votes.

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Top Education official faces forgery rap

BY B. RIVERA

THE COMMISSION on Higher Education will file criminal charges against an appointee of former President Fidel Ramos who had faked her Civil Service Commission papers to get a management position at the agency early this year.

Director II Alicia Tagaro was discovered to have allegedly faked her CSC clearance in order to get the plum post, according to CHEd executive director Roger Perez.

Perez said Tagaro has been barred from entering CHEd premises at the Development Academy of the Philippines building in Pasig City since Wednesday and she has been stripped of her functions in the commission.

Perez, who sought the advice of the solicitor general in the case, said forgery charges will be filed against Tagaro before the Office of the Ombudsman, the Civil Service Commission, and the Career Executive Service Board.

Perez said Tagaro had been reporting for work despite the nonrenewal of her appointment by President Macapagal-Arroyo due to her "refusal" to submit the necessary documents for reappointment.

She also continued to issue orders to the Higher Education Development Fund staff, which she managed until December when her appointment expired.

"Reports reaching CHEd chair Ester Garcia revealed that Tagaro continued to report for work and exercise undue influence over HEDF staffers since January 2001," Perez said in a statement the other day.

He said Tagaro had also issued memoranda to the various CHEd regional offices meant to confuse personnel about CHEd's provincial operations.

"Her actions caused severe disruption to CHEd operations and nearly prejudiced its P31-million CHEd Link project," Perez said, adding that Tagaro oversaw important CHEd projects in Mindanao, along with programs on research and centers of excellence

He said she has not been paid since January, when she was removed from the government payroll.

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Wednesday, 27 June 2001 (1:30-5:00 PM)
Topic : INJUNCTIVE RELIEF IN LABOR DISPUTES
Lecturer : Comm. VICENTE VELOSO
Thursday, 28 June 2001 (1:30-5:00 PM)
Topic : RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN CERTIFICATION ELECTIONS
Lecturer : Asec. BENEDICTO ERNESTO BITONIO
Friday, 29 June 2001 (1:30-5:00 PM)
Topic : PRESENTATION AND COMMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON LABOR
Lecturer : Dr. GONZALO JURADO
Comment: Prof. CEZARIO AZUCENA
Saturday, 30 June 2001 (8:30-12:00 NN)
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Does Joker have Gloria's blessing for Senate post?

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM

SENATOR-ELECT Joker Arroyo could be considered Malacañang's "favorite" among the three administration senators vying for the Senate presidency because he harbors no presidential ambitions in 2004.

This according to Senator-elect Ralph Recto who said he and five other neophyte senators will continue to push for Arroyo to be Senate president.

"The intention of our group is to help President Macapagal-Arroyo," Recto told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview. "Joker has no intention of running for president in 2004."

Aside from himself, Recto said, Arroyo has the support of Senators-elect Manuel Villar, Francisco Pangilinan and two others he did not name.

Administration senators Franklin Drilon and Renato Cayetano have also announced their intention to run for the top Senate post.

Current Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr., however, has said he intends to hang on to his post. Although an independent, Pimentel has shown increasing support for the Macapagal administration.

Among the four candidates mentioned, Pimentel and Drilon appear to be the strongest bets. Both are known to be harboring presidential ambitions in 2004. This would place them in direct competition with Ms Macapagal who is expected to run for President then.

A fifth candidate for the Senate leadership is opposition Senator-elect Edgardo Angara.

Asked about Arroyo's bid, Angara said the former Makati congressman could go for it, even if a neophyte senator has never become Senate president.

"It's tradition-breaking, but it would be welcome to see some ground broken," Angara, president of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, said in a press briefing.

Angara said the opposition is determined to take control of the Senate.

He said that in such a political contest, senators have been known to cross party lines to vote for the Senate president.

"Leadership in the Senate is a very unique pursuit," he said. "In the Senate, party affiliation is less a factor than personal chemistry."

Over at the House of Representatives, a coalition of "new politics" congressmen has opposed a power-sharing proposal made by Malacañang with regard to the leadership of the lower chamber.

President Macapagal had proposed during a meeting Tuesday with congressmen belonging to the "Coalition for New Politics" that their candidate for speaker "share" the position with Representative-elect Jose de Venecia.

"The coalition opposed the proposal. How could we share power if our objectives clash with each other?" Rep. Vicente Sandoval, a member of the Lakas progressive bloc and himself a contender for the speakership, told reporters.

"The coalition stands for new politics and is seeking reforms in the House," he added, pointing out that De Venecia had his chance to institute reforms when he was speaker of the 10th Congress but "he bungled this."

The power-sharing plan was reminiscent of the past Congress where the Senate president's term was split between Senators Blas Ople and Franklin Drilon. *With TJ Burgonio*

Alien ownership of key industries to be pushed

THE OPPOSITION will re-introduce a controversial measure that would open up key industries—including Philippine media—to full foreign ownership, when the Senate tackles the issue of amending the Constitution.

In a press briefing, Senator-elect Edgardo Angara said relaxing the rules on foreign ownership would be the most effective way to lure investors to the country.

"I think the Philippines has placed a handicap on itself because we have fenced ourselves in and erected barriers around certain key economic activities in this country," said Angara, president of the opposition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino.

He cited the communications, telecommunications, transportation, infrastructure and natural resources development fields where foreign ownership has been limited to 40 percent.

Angara said this was originally done on the "assumption" that local investors could put up the rest, or 60 percent, of the financing.

"The truth is we cannot come up with that 60 percent, and the 40 percent is not coming in," he said.

He said this has relegated the Philippines to the lowest rung in the competition ladder to attract "capital inflow and investments" among Asian countries.

As a result, he said, infrastructure, transportation and telecommunications in the country are "almost backward," making it impossible for the Philippines to attain real progress.

Angara proposed the establishment of a body—like the National Economic Development Authority—to determine how much ownership should be allowed foreigners in a given industry.

He said foreign ownership could range from 70 to 100 percent of an enterprise.

Angara said, however, that a cap should be placed on the ownership of land by foreigners.

Armand N. Nocum

Faulty heater forces PAL jet to return

A PHILIPPINE Airlines jet bound for Narita, Japan, from Cebu with 149 persons on board made an emergency landing at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport after a water heater malfunctioned, making a popping sound and causing steam to spew into the forward galley.

None of the 136 passengers and 13 crewmembers were hurt after the PAL Airbus 330-300 managed to land safely at the Naia at around 10:30 a.m., airline officials said in a statement.

The Air Transportation Office sent a team to inspect the stricken PAL jet. PAL, on the other hand, dispatched another aircraft, also an Airbus 330-300, to ferry the affected passengers to Narita at 2 p.m. yesterday.

The pilot, Capt. Ed Misa, decided to divert flight PR 434 to Manila after hearing the sound and steam enveloped the forward galley, PAL officials said.

TJ Burgonio

JAZA TALKS. Ayala Corp. CEO Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala shares his thoughts and vision for the future with INQUIRER editors and other employees Thursday. Albeit off the record, the session was part of a series sponsored by the newspaper for its staff featuring leaders in various fields. In front row are INQUIRER chair Marixi R. Prieto and president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Pirates free four hostages taken in Malaysian waters

KUALA LUMPUR—Pirates who seized four fishing vessels and a pair of barges in Malaysian waters released another four crew members, but are still holding at least eight others on some islands in the Philippines, the Malaysian Coast Guard said yesterday.

Coast Guard Cmdr. Muhamad Muda told AFP the four were released along with their vessel late Thursday after marine police negotiated with the hijackers' representatives.

Muhamad said no ransom was paid for their release, but the hijackers were demanding payment for the freedom of their remaining eight to 10 hostages, all workers on the two barges.

"They are asking for ransom. We are looking for the owners," he said.

Hoping to rake in huge ransoms like those paid to the Abu Sayyaf guerrillas, pirates operating between the Philippines and Malaysia have attacked a half-dozen vessels and taken 15 captives in recent days, Jalaluddin Abdul Rahman, deputy commander of Malaysia's marine police, said.

The kidnappers weren't linked to the Abu Sayyaf, but "they are obviously influenced" by the riches reaped by the group after last year's hostage-taking, he said.

Jalaluddin said that Malaysian vessels should "pay heed to this situation and take necessary precautions against piracy attacks."

"The pirates think they can also make big money by holding people for ransom," Jalaluddin said.

A group of pirates wearing army fatigues and carrying M-16 rifles last Wednesday seized the fishing vessels and the barges off the Sabah port of Sandakan.

They towed the boats into waters off the Philippines' Ligiman island.

Muhamad said the hijacking was unrelated to the Abu Sayyaf rebel group holding 29 captives, including three Americans, in Basilan island, but was the work of "ordinary sea robbers."

Twelve crew members from three of the boats were released unharmed last Thursday after the boat owners paid the pirates a few hundred dollars.

Muhamad said one barge was being held on Ligiman and the other on nearby Tawi-Tawi island, along with their crews.

The Coast Guard commander also advised shippers sailing the waters off Kudat, northeast of Sabah's capital Kota Kinabalu, and waters off eastern Tawau to be alert and request police protection.

"Avoid night sailing and do not to stray near Philippine waters. The situation in southern Philippines is fraught with uncertainty," he said.

Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told reporters that naval surveillance had been increased and that more aircraft might be brought in to monitor the dangerous stretch of water between the Philippines and Malaysia. *AFP, AP*

Top officials to comprise anti-crime 'superbody'

By Christine Avendaño

A NEW "superbody" to coordinate efforts at combating crime will be made up of high-level government officials and private sector leaders, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said yesterday.

The National Anti-Crime Council, to be composed of nine department secretaries and seven private individuals, will be chaired by Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo with Interior Secretary Jose Lina as vice chair.

The council is part of a package of measures to address the Abu Sayyaf hostage crisis in Basilan, Tiglao said.

It would be a "superbody" that would coordinate government efforts at combating crimes such as gunrunning, kidnapping, white slavery, piracy, drug trafficking, counterfeiting and bank fraud, he said.

Tiglao said the body would have initial funding of P20 million to be taken from of President Macapagal-Arroyo's contingency funds. By next year, funding for the body would be included in the budget proposal of the Office of the President, he said.

The other members of the council are National Security Adviser Roilo Golez and the heads of the justice, defense, foreign, transportation and communication, finance, agriculture and environment and natural resources departments.

Seven members of the body will come from the private sector—two from the Chinese-Filipino community, one each from the business sector and Muslim community, and three from non-governmental organizations.

Tiglao said the draft executive order creating the crime body has been completed and just needs to be evaluated and discussed.

"We believe that this National Anti-Crime Council would (make possible) a more coordinated response to the crime problem," he told a news briefing.

"Based on my short experience in government, a lot of coordination is needed in the bureaucracy," Tiglao said.

Where previous anti-crime bodies had a "strike force" that was created outside of those institutions, Tiglao said the new body would just "coordinate" with the implementing agencies.

As soon as the President issues the executive order, "smaller" anti-crime bodies will be automatically abolished as the new body would take "charge of all anti-crime efforts in the country."

RP consul in fake bond scam axed

THE DEPARTMENT of Foreign Affairs has dismissed the country's honorary consul to Montreal, Canada, who was arrested with her sister in London while attempting to cash fake United States Federal bonds amounting to $25 billion.

Foreign Affairs spokesperson Victoriano Lecaros said Erlinda Quintos-Brewster, the Philippines' honorary consul to Montreal, was ordered dismissed by Vice President and Foreign Affairs Secretary Teofisto Guingona effective yesterday.

Lecaros stressed that Brewster was not a Filipino citizen.

But, he said, the Philippine government was duty-bound to extend assistance to her sister, Lourdes Quintos, who holds a Philippine passport.

Brewster and her sister were arrested by London police on June 2 while trying to cash fake US Federal Bank Reserve notes amounting to $25 billion with a London bank.

They were charged with two counts of fraud for possession of a "forged instrument" and attempting to use it. *Rocky Nazareno*

Warning out on cat rabies after girl dies

THE DEPARTMENT of Health has warned that the deadly rabies virus could also come from cats following the death last week of a 5-year-old girl who had been bitten by a cat.

"This may be a rare case but this should open one's eyes to the fact that cats have rabies, too," Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said.

In a press statement, the DOH said the girl was admitted to the San Lazaro Hospital on the afternoon of June 7 complaining of difficulty in drinking and breathing. She was found positive for hydrophobia—a morbid dread of water—and aerophobia—excessive fear of drafts or fresh air. She died at about 7:45 p.m. the same day.

An investigation revealed that the girl had been bitten on the right knee three months previously. The cat had died the day after it bit the victim but no examination of its brain was done.

Dayrit said that based on the number of rabies cases treated in hospitals in 1999-2000, 98.9 percent were caused by dog bites and 1.1 percent by cats.

The health chief said post-exposure treatment should have been immediately given to the victim to prevent death.

He advised people not to neglect animal bites, licks and scratches and to wash these properly with soap and water. He said victims should be taken to animal bite treatment centers that have been established in every province and city.

Rabies is a fatal disease transmitted to humans by the bite of an infected animal. Dogs are the principal carriers of the virus. The disease's early warning signs are headache, fever, body malaise, excitability and aerophobia.

Sorry, Gloria

THROUGH an inadvertence, we reversed the order of the surnames of Ms Gloria Garchitorena-Goloy in the story "2 PDI writers bag top journalism award." It is not Goloy-Garchitorena but Garchitorena-Goloy. We regret the error.—Ed.

Quash raps vs Maceda, lawyers ask

LAWYERS of former Ambassador Ernesto Maceda asked the Quezon City Regional Trial Court yesterday to quash the rebellion charges against him instead of simply allowing the government to withdraw the case so it could be re-filed in a lower court.

In a three-page response, Maceda lawyer Manuel M. Calanog Jr. asked Judge Thelma A. Ponferrada to quash the case "without prejudice" to its filing "before the proper court."

Ponferrada earlier ordered Maceda's lawyers to comment on the prosecution's June 13 petition to withdraw the charges.

The prosecution said the case had been "inadvertently" filed in Ponferrada's sala instead of the Metropolitan Trial Court "which has proper jurisdiction."

MTCs handle criminal cases that carry penalties of six years and below. Cases that have a penalty of more than six years are handled by regional trial courts.

Calanog said, however, that the charges should be quashed instead. *Philip C. Tubeza*

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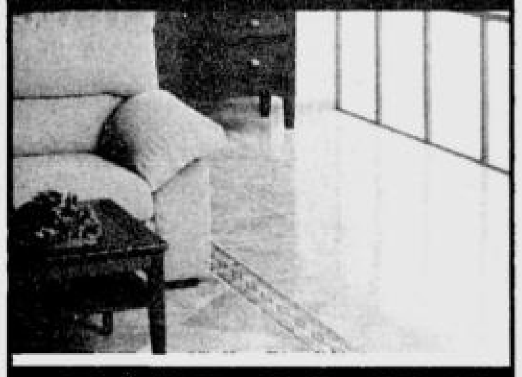

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Gov't urged to continue talks in Oslo

(From page A1)

Macapagal administration.

The talks are aimed at ending the 32-year communist rebellion in the country.

Militant groups described as "hypocritical" the unilateral decision of the government to declare an indefinite recess of the peace talks, saying that Aguinaldo was a torturer and human rights violator.

Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Alvarado, the Army's 5th Infantry Division commander in Cagayan Valley, expressed surprise that the talks were suspended just because Aguinaldo was killed.

Alvarado said he would like the talks to continue to achieve a "lasting peace" in the country.

"But I would not like to preempt the decision of the government. Let us see what will happen," he said.

In Davao City, Archbishop Fernando Capalla said communication lines between the government panel and the NDF must be kept open.

Capalla said killings were not new to both groups and should not be taken as "an obstacle to the pursuit for peace with the communist movement."

"This (killing) must be taken as part of the discussion. Otherwise, there would be no peace talks," he said.

He nevertheless said that he understood the position of the government as the killing of Aguinaldo obstructed confidence-building measures.

Jose Ma. Sison, chief political consultant of the NDF panel, said t[illegible]overnment panel had laid the "ground for destroying the entire peace negotiations" by its decision to go on recess ahead of the original adjournment yesterday.

"In view of the irresponsible action of the GRP (government) negotiating panel, the NDF is prepared to cease peace negotiations with the GRP until the rule of the Macapagal clique is over," Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines, said in a statement from Oslo.

Sison warned that "the socio-economic and political crisis of the ruling system is exceedingly favorable for pursuing the people's war for national liberation and democracy."

He said the Macapagal administration was "condemnable for glorifying Aguinaldo as a hero, for covering up and condoning the human rights violations" in the past.

If the government panel was so adamant about justice as a condition for peace talks, the NDF would also have to demand justice for "hundreds of thousands" of human rights victims under the Marcos and Macapagal regimes, Sison said.

Still open to talks

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao yesterday said the government would still try to pursue the peace talks but would appeal to communist rebels to stop its political assassinations.

Tiglao said the government panel declared a recess because it considered the killing of Aguinaldo, which was done while the two sides were engaged in peace talks, an act of bad faith.

"We will still try (to resume the talks) because this is the objective of the negotiations. There are times when you do not come to an agreement but for the sake of peace, we will still try to pursue these talks," Tiglao said.

He said the President would meet with the negotiating panel to discuss the "next step."

"There is no agreement yet but our initial reaction or proposal is for the NDF to cease or stop the political killing (before talks are resumed)," Tiglao said.

Monumental irony

NDF chair and chief negotiator Luis Jalandoni said the government panel's move was a "most monumental irony" because it was glorifying Aguinaldo whom he described as the country's "top torturer."

"In the case of Aguinaldo, the hundreds of victims of his sadistic brutality have waited nearly 30 years for redress of grievances," Jalandoni said.

He said Aguinaldo was a "dyed-in-the-wool military fascist" despite his civilian status for years.

Aguinaldo recruited militiamen for his private army. He was also into "big-time drug dealings, protected illegal loggers and was a feared political warlord," Jalandoni said.

Jalandoni described as an "insane plan" the statement by the military's spokesperson, Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan, that Aguinaldo be given full military honors and buried at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

"By holding up a Marcos butcher for apotheosis as a hero, the Armed Forces of the Philippines spokesman proves that the military continues to uphold the fascist legacy of the Marcos years." Jalandoni said.

"Nobody will stand for this gross insult and mockery of our collective sentiment and intelligence, and our dignity as a people," the NDF chair added.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) said Aguinado's death should have not caused the government to withdraw from the peace talks.

Carol Pagaduan-Araullo, Bayan national vice chair, said the government had engaged in hypocrisy when it denounced the NPA for killing Aguinaldo.

"(Aguinaldo) managed to reinvent himself into a civilian government official, first as governor and later, congressman of Cagayan province," Araullo said in a statement.

"(Government chief negotiator) Bello conveniently fails to mention that all successive governments after Marcos abysmally failed to render justice to scores of Aguinaldo's victims many of whom died by his murderous hands." Araullo said.

Bayan claimed that as governor of Cagayan, Aguinaldo ruled the province with an iron fist.

"(He worked) intimately with the AFP in conducting military operations directed against suspected mass bases of the NPA and in employing bloody psywar tactics against local revolutionary cadres and fighters such as the abduction of the latter's children in order to pressure them to surrender," she said.

Araullo said it was "ludicrous" that the government called for an indefinite recess of the peace talks just because the NDF and its armed wing punished a public official found guilty of "crimes against the people."

Araullo said the NDF did not call it quits even with the recent military strike against a suspected NPA camp in Bicol that killed a music student of the University of the Philippines.

"The NDF could have denounced this military attack as proof that the GRP is unrelenting in its offensives against the revolutionary movement. The NDF could have said this was not conducive to building confidence and goodwill for the peace talks," she said.

But Araullo said the incident, while a cause for concern, was never considered sufficient ground for withdrawing from the peace talks by the NDF.

No ceasefire

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) urged the government to return to the negotiating table since there was no ceasefire between rebel and government forces when Aguinaldo was killed.

"The Macapagal administration itself is presently waging its counter insurgency operations in the countryside, like the 'Campaign Plan Habol Tamaraw,' which resulted in increased militarization and human rights abuses in various parts of the two Mindoro provinces," KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos said.

The government panel "must immediately return to the negotiating table because the social and economic reform agenda are very important in ending the roots of the armed conflict. These include resolving the centuries-old problem of landlessness," Ramos said.

Burial today

In Tuguegarao City, police officials have mobilized traffic personnel for the burial of Aguinaldo today.

Chief Supt. Dominador Resos Jr., Cagayan Valley police director, said they were bracing for snarled traffic because thousands of Cagayanos and government and military officials were expected to attend the funeral.

Aguinaldo's classmates from the Philippine Military Academy arrived Friday to pay their last respects to their slain mistah. Aguinaldo belonged to PMA Class 1972.

Additional policemen and Army soldiers from the towns of Peñablanca, Enrile, Iguig and Solana were sent to the city to augment police forces for the burial. ***With a report from Philip C. Tubeza***

Aguinaldo slay suspect says he's innocent

(From page A1)

Cagayan Valley—from a news flash on television.

Presented to newsmen by NCRPO Chief Deputy Director General Romeo Peña, Robrigado denied "any involvement with the New People's Army or with any other illegal armed group."

A graduate of the UP Diliman in Quezon City, he also denied being affiliated with any leftist group. However, he admitted that he had been in Cagayan in the past to do research on peasants for the university's progressive Center for Nationalist Studies.

He said he last went to Cagayan in late 1999.

"I also don't know the other suspects in the police' sketches," he added.

Robrigado also turned the tables on his accusers, saying, "they owe me an explanation."

Rommel Quizon, Robrigado's lawyer from the Public Interest Law Center, said his client would not go to Cagayan to be presented to witnesses in a police lineup because he has not received any summons or subpoena.

"This is a voluntary appearance. After this, we can go straight home," Quizon said.

At press time, however. Robrigado was supposed to go to the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Camp Crame to convince investigators that he should be dropped from the list of suspects.

The Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights (Karapatan) and the EMJP defended Robrigado as "a plain citizen who is making his living (doing) business in Metro Manila."

'Failure of justice system'

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines condemned the murders, while saying that such summary killings were a commentary on the failure of the justice system.

Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, CBCP president, said past administrations never seriously pursued charges against military officials accused of human rights violations, and that "ordinary folks often hope that the New People's Army, in certain cases, would fulfill the punitive role that the justice system fails to do."

Quevedo said Aguinaldo was one of a number of military officials accused of such violations, "but he did not have a chance to prove the suspicions and allegations wrong."

Added the bishop: "Neither did his accusers have the opportunity to prove theirs."

The Kilusang Mayo Uno claimed that what previous governments have failed to do, the NPA has accomplished by killing Aguinaldo for his alleged human rights abuses.

"Aguinaldo was a vicious man, and all these years he had eluded justice while his victims continued to suffer emotional and mental torture, never forgetting what they suffered at his hands and upon his orders," said Sammy Malunes, KMU spokesperson.

Fishing expedition

Malunes said the Macapagal administration's decision to declare an "indefinite recess" in peace negotiations with the National Democratic Front following Aguinaldo's murder only indicated that the government was "piqued" that the system of revolutionary justice had prevailed. ***(See related story on Page A1.)***

The Ecumenical Movement of Justice and Peace accused military and police agents under Task Force Agui, the team assigned to solve the case, of going on a "fishing expedition and witch-hunting operations in trying to arrest suspects."

Dani Beltran, the group's secretary general, said "the group tasked to solve (the) case is employing the very same tactics used by Colonel Aguinaldo in harassing activists, intimidating cause-oriented organizations, and hunting suspected communists" under martial law.

Madonna ticket for sex

(From page A1)

attend the Berlin concert of rock icon Madonna as his guest.

Insisting there was nothing illegal about the offer, Heusinger said his staff and readers were voluntarily taking part. The staff would pick the winning entry on Monday, he said.

"No one is being forced to take part," Heusinger said.

"There's nothing illegal about it. These are all volunteers. It's not an 'indecent proposal' even though it may be considered reprehensible."

Prostitution is not illegal in Germany, he added.

Heusinger said 12 male readers had sent in applications, which included nude photographs, to have sex with a woman columnist named Shelley Masters.

Six female readers had sent in applications to have sex with one of three men on the public-ation's staff and four gay readers had sent in bids to have sex with a gay staff member. ***Reuters***

Republic of the Philippines

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Manila

PRESENT:

IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPOUNDING OF BALLOT BOXES, DOCUMENTS AND OTHER ELECTION PARAPHERNALIA WHICH ARE SUBJECT OF ELECTION PROTESTS.		
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	JAVIER, Rufino S.B.,	Commissioner
	LANTION, Ralph C.,	Commissioner
	SADAIN, Mehol K.,	Commissioner
	BORRA, Resurreccion Z.,	Commissioner
	TUASON, Florentino, Jr. A.,	Commissioner
x-------------------------------x	Promulgated: 13 June 2001	

RESOLUTION NO. 4464

WHEREAS, as a result of the May 14, 2001 elections as in every election, there are protest cases filed with the Commission on Elections;

WHEREAS, protestants and counter-protestants in these cases pray for the impounding of ballot boxes, election documents and paraphernalia from different precincts, cities and municipalities which are subject of protests.

WHEREAS, it is imperative to adopt precautionary and security measures to protect and preserve the integrity and identity of said ballot boxes and their contents, election documents and paraphernalia which are in the possession of the respective City/Municipal Treasurers and Election Officers.

WHEREFORE, the Commission en banc Resolved, as it hereby Resolves to adopt the following precautionary measures designed to protect and preserve the integrity and identity of the ballot boxes and the ballots contained therein and all related election documents and paraphernalia:

1. To consider contested ballot boxes, election documents and paraphernalia which are in the possession of the City/Municipal Treasurers IMPOUNDED under their legal custody subject to the direct control and supervision of this Commission or its duly authorized representatives;
2. To consider contested election documents (list of voters, book of voters, etc.) and paraphernalia which are in the possession of the City/Municipal Election Officers IMPOUNDED under their legal custody subject to the direct control and supervision of this Commission or its duly authorized representative;
3. To direct the PNP Provincial Director of the province to see to it that adequate security is provided on a twenty four-hour basis to the Offices of the City/Municipal Treasurers and Election Officers concerned;
4. To direct the Provincial Treasurer concerned to closely supervise and monitor the Treasurers under his administrative supervision as to their compliance hereof;
5. To order the Provincial Election Supervisor of the province concerned to closely supervise, monitor and coordinate with the City/Municipal Treasurers and Election Officers, Provincial Directors of the PNP and Provincial Treasurers of the province as to the strict compliance hereof;
6. To allow the parties in every case the right to post watchers in the premises of the offices of the City/Municipal Treasurers and Election Officers concerned, subject to office regulations necessary to protect government property;
7. To apprise the parties and all officials concerned of this Resolution for their information.

Whenever circumstances require, the Commission may send representatives to the cities/municipalities concerned for the purpose of sealing and/or retrieving of said ballot boxes, documents and paraphernalia.

The Electoral Contests Adjudication Department is hereby directed to cause the Implementation of this Resolution and the Education and Information Department is likewise directed to cause the publication hereof in two newspapers of general circulation.

SO ORDERED.

ALFREDO L. BENIPAYO
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RALPH C. LANTION
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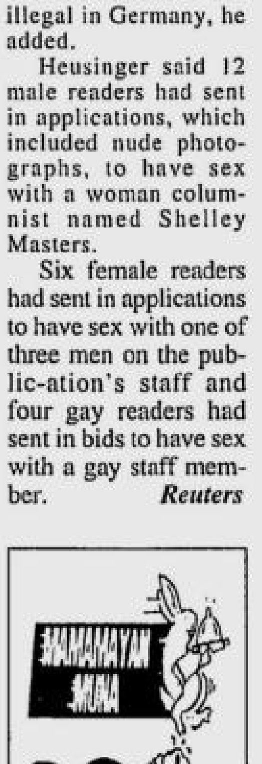

As promised, power rates to be cut next month

(From page A1)

Critics of the power reform law allege that the 30-centavo rebate was merely a means to lull the public into accepting the law that "favored big companies."

The law also provides for the amortization of Napocor's above-market contract costs with independent power producers. Critics said this would mean additional charges of 25-30 centavos per kwh for a period of 15 to 25 years.

On top of 20-centavo rate cut

Napocor president Jesus N. Alcordo said the 30-centavo cut in the effective selling rate of power distributors was on top of the 20-centavo-per-kwh rate reduction that took effect in March.

Napocor implemented the 20-centavo reduction following an order from Ms Macapagal.

Alcordo said the first power rate reduction was still in effect contrary to reports that it was good for only three months.

The 30-centavo rebate would mean P3.7 billion in foregone revenues for Napocor, according to data from the state-owned corporation. Residential consumers account for about a third of total power sales.

Earlier, Napocor reported that the 20-centavo reduction would cost the firm P400 million in foregone revenues per month.

Napocor said it would recover part of these losses through additional charges to distribution utilities.

It said it would have to implement an additional charge of 2-3 centavos per kwh to recover the losses from the 20-centavo reduction.

Both rate reductions are being implemented despite Napocor's growing debts. As of last year, Napocor's total financial obligations amounted to P900 billion.

Oil prices

After holding separate talks the other day with the presidents of Pilipinas Shell Corp., Caltex Philippines Inc. and Petron, Perez said an oil price hike was not in the offing.

"They said there was still no official decision yet on this new price increase as they were still studying the matter," he said.

But on Wednesday Pilipinas Shell announced that it would raise fuel prices by an average of 90 to 95 centavos per liter in the next two weeks.

Perez noted that it was possible that the oil company executives were merely preparing the public for such eventuality.

He said he wanted to talk with the executives of the oil firms again yesterday as he did not want to see oil prices to suddenly increase.

Raul T. Concepcion, chair of the Private Sector Consumer and Oil Price Watch, said he was dismayed by the announcement of oil firms that they would raise prices by 90 centavos per liter this month.

Concepcion said that based on the formula that the Department of Energy had used before the deregulation of the oil industry, the increase in oil prices should be 52 centavos per liter.

He added that the oil firms raised prices by 46 centavos last month instead of only 18 centavos per liter. "The net price increase this month should then be 34 centavos only," he said.

Water rates

It may take time before water rates go up as the government is reviewing Maynilad Water Services Inc.'s plan to raise prices.

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said Ms Macapagal had ordered a review of Maynilad's rate increase because its approval did not follow the proper process.

Tiglao said Maynilad's rate increase did not go through the Cabinet Cluster on Public Services and the Cabinet itself.

"The President thinks that the views of the other Cabinet members have not been heard completely, especially that of National Anti-Poverty Commission head Ging Deles," he said on dzMM.

"The President also thinks that if new increases would be imposed, this should be gradual so that the public would not be shocked," Tiglao added.

Concepcion warned that the combined effects of increases in the prices of oil products and water and the deterioration of the peso exchange rate would further aggravate the economy.

"The rate hikes may trigger a clamor for an increase in transport fares and in wages, which will result in an increase in the prices of basic commodities," the businessman said in a statement.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, June 16, 2001
10th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **2 Cor 5:14-21**
Gospel: **Mt 5:33-37**

Jesus said to his disiciples, "You have also heard that people were told in the past: *Do not break your oath; an oath sworn to the Lord must be kept.* But I tell you this: do not take oaths. Do not swear by the heavens, for they are God's throne, nor by the earth, because it is his footstool, nor by Jerusalem because it is the city of the great king. Do not even swear by your head, because you cannot make a single hair white or black. Say *yes* when you mean *yes* and say *no* when you mean *no.* Anything else you say comes from the devil."

Commentary

There was a debate among the early Christians about oath taking since in the heat of debate oaths were often taken too easily. Jesus invites his disciples to avoid this practice of using the holy name of God to serve ordinary purposes. The prohibition to swear has to be understood within the wider context in which Jesus calls his followers to live sincerely as holy people of God and to be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect. Excessive debate on how to use the holy name is counterproductive and will do more damage than good.

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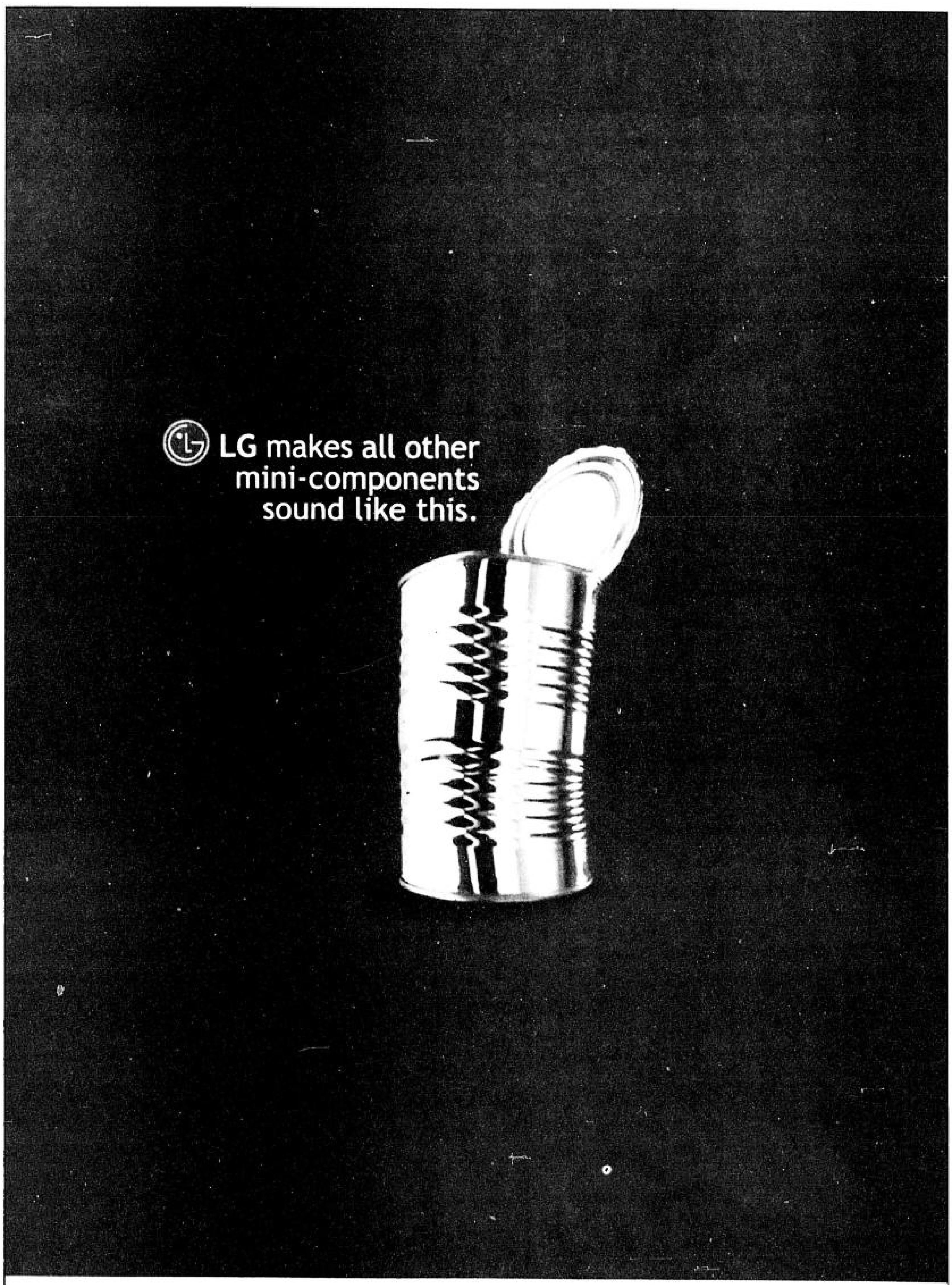

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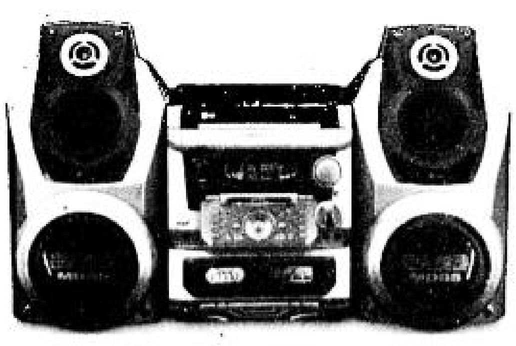
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OPINION

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EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

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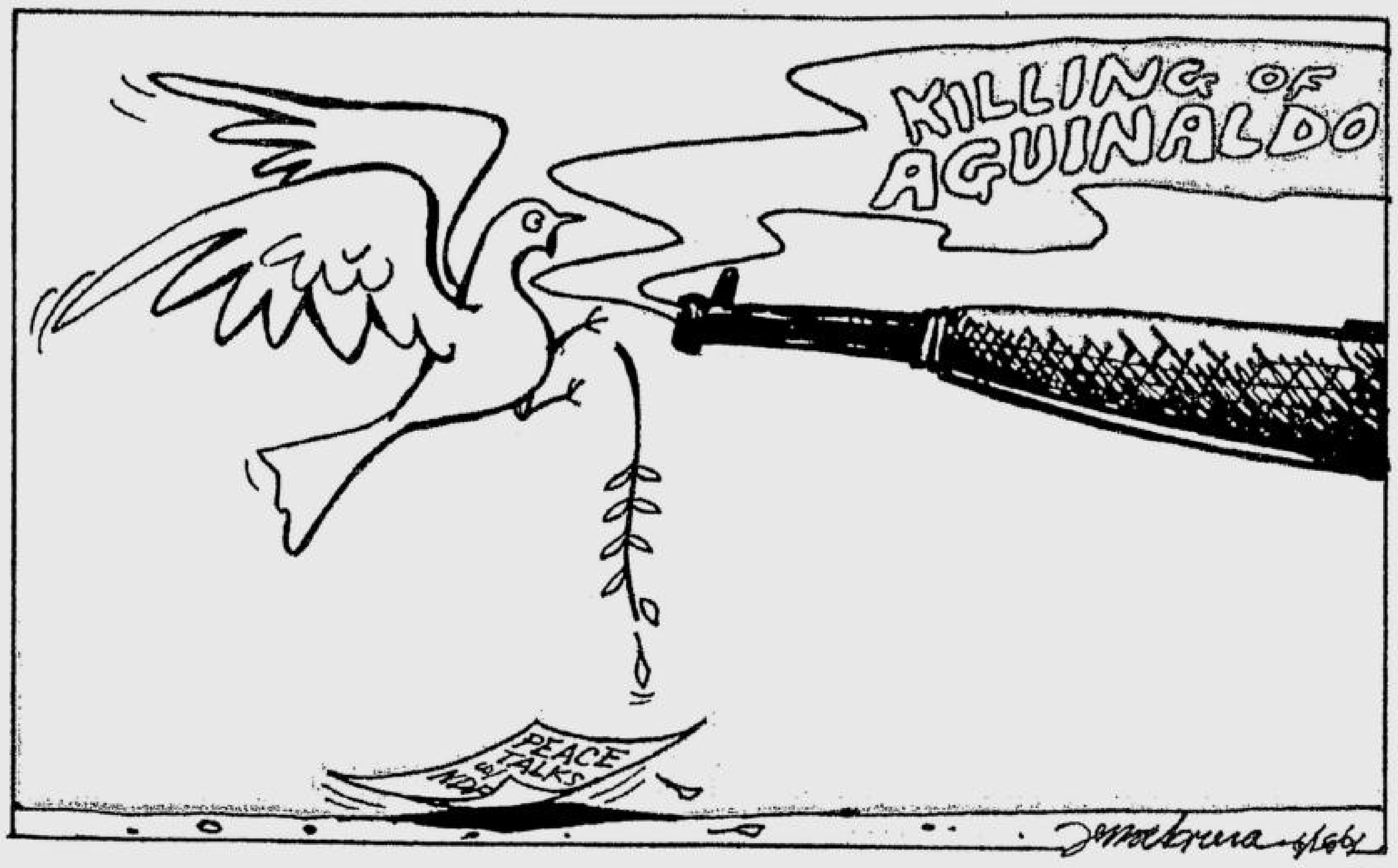

Confusing signals

EDITORIAL

THE ASSASSINATION of Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo by the New People's Army has thrown off the rails the peace talks with the National Democratic Front in Oslo, Norway. The Macapagal administration has called an "indefinite recess" in the talks and government negotiators are returning to Manila after this confusing turn of events.

The assassination could not have come at a worse time, given that the government's resources are thinly spread in establishing dialogue with other rebel groups while fighting the depredations of the Abu Sayyaf. Aguinaldo's murder followed the killing by NPA guerrillas of Mayor Cesar Platon of Tanauan City on May 7 and of Rep. Marcial Punzalan Jr., in Tiaong, Quezon on May 13. In claiming responsibility for the killings, the NPA said the two politicians were punished for "crimes against the people."

The NPA settled old scores in killing Aguinaldo. Jose Ma. Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines, said that the murder was "just punishment" for Aguinaldo's "blood debts." Aguinaldo has been accused of violation of human rights as a member of a military torture group during the Marcos regime. He was responsible for the capture of Sison and other Communist Party leaders during the Marcos crackdown on the communists.

Luis Jalandoni, the NDF chief negotiator in Oslo, joined Sison in gloating over the killing of Aguinaldo and his driver. Jalandoni said that Aguinaldo was a "legitimate target" of the NPA and his killing was "in accordance with international humanitarian laws." Jalandoni also blamed the government for the setback of the talks, accusing it of "standing by a sadistic violator of human rights."

The series of NPA executions amid the peace talks in Oslo sends mixed, if not confusing signals, blurring the NDF's intentions. They raise questions over whether the NDF is serious about the Oslo dialogue or bent on scuttling it. The killings have shattered a climate of confidence that auspiciously surrounded the visit to Manila just a month ago by senior party leaders from Utrecht, their place of exile and overseas base.

Through the executions, the NDF makes the point that it is imposing its own retributive justice, outside of the realm of the Philippine government's system of justice which claims prior rights to bringing citizens to justice for crimes, including violation of human rights. The right to execute belongs to the state; in carrying out extra-legal executions, the NPA is saying that it is not bound by Philippine laws.

The killings also suggest divisions within the NDF over whether it is phasing into parliamentary politics or whether it maintains the revolutionary hard line which carries out revolutionary justice. The election of three Bayan Muna party-list representatives to Congress is a sign that the people are prepared to accept communist participation in the parliamentary arena. For nearly half a century, the communists have been denied representation in the legislature. But in the May elections, Bayan Muna topped the party-list election with all three of its candidates winning seats in the House. Its lead representative, Satur Ocampo, is identified with the moderate wing of the communist movement.

The NPA executions and the exploration of the parliamentary option by Bayan Muna represent two conflicting tendencies in the NDF or even worse, deep fractures inside the movement. The talks in Oslo offered one of the brightest chances of ending the communist insurgency that has festered for 32 years, the longest running communist rebellion in Asia, after the Edsa Revolution when the Aquino administration released political prisoners and opened peace talks with the NDF.

The dialogue has gone through valleys and plateaus and what promised to be a euphoric resumption of the peace dialogue opened by the Macapagal administration has now entered a period of uncertainty.

It is perplexing that Jalandoni was jolted by the pullout of the government's panel in Oslo. How did he expect the government to react? The killings may indicate that the NDF has lost control of the movement, which has already shown a tendency to factional fragmentation, or is unable to impose party discipline. It might help avert the collapse of the talks if the NDF gives a clear signal of the direction it is taking: the parliamentary arena or a violent revolution.

Doubts about Edsa II

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I HAVE just gone through "Edsa 2," a photographic journal of the upheaval last January that led to the ouster of Joseph Estrada and his replacement by Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The text written by Shiela S. Coronel is an excellent account of Erap's career and the excesses that eventually led to his present miserable situation as an indicted former president. Her style is matched only by the carefully chosen pictures, most of them in color, that vividly memorialize the events leading to this abrupt turn in our nation's history.

Both the text and the photographs are eloquent evocations of the heady days that replicated Edsa I and affirmed the supremacy of the people's will and their rage against another failed idol who had betrayed their trust.

While the work is an authentic record of what is now commonly called Edsa II, there are still lingering doubts about the legality of the "revolt" itself, especially insofar as it is invoked as a justification for Erap's continuing claim for his lost office.

The deposed president's wounded mantra is that when he left Malacañang on Jan. 20, he was not surrendering his office but only taking a leave of absence. He had no intention of resigning but wanted merely to defuse the tindery situation that was already smoldering at Edsa. His real purpose, he says, was to return to his position after the disturbance shall have quieted down and resume the discharge of his duties as entrusted to him by 10 million Filipino voters.

The Supreme Court has already rejected that claim. It has ruled that Estrada relinquished his presidency when he left Malacañang after many meaningful acts that revealed the finality and permanence of his departure. The Court accorded much significance to Edgardo Angara's detailed record of such acts in his diary, which became the main basis for the conclusion that Erap had decided to yield to the people's demand for his resignation.

Erap's purpose obviously was to appease the people's wrath that hung like a Damocles' sword over him and his family. Given such motive, many people—and not necessarily only those who support him—are arguing that the supposed resignation was invalid because it was made under duress. Coercion vitiated it and, consequently, also Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's takeover of his position when it was legally not vacant.

In my view, Estrada's resignation is not unlike the resignations filed by erring employees as an alternative to being fired and prosecuted. These are quite common in the government service and the private sector. To avoid the aggravation of an administrative or criminal proceeding, such employees are allowed a graceful exit through the fiction of a voluntary resignation. Although not voluntary in the strict sense, it is nonetheless undoubtedly optional. The other option is to reject it.

Estrada could have stuck it out like a macho Asiong Salonga and faced the music. But he did not. If he chose instead to step down, as in fact he did, that was a voluntary decision that he cannot now disown. His present stance is only an afterthought. Only the gullible believe it. At any rate, if it was really his intention to retreat and fight another day, that strategy has clearly failed. He is now a detention prisoner, facing serious non-bailable plunder charges.

There were negotiations on the terms of his resignation but they reportedly fell through. His proposed exile as well as his immunity from criminal prosecution was flatly dismissed. No compromise having been reached, Estrada's departure from Malacañang was his own unilateral and unconditional decision. Hence, the present administration is not inhibited from taking such civil and criminal action against him as it sees fit.

The Hydra of the past venality has yet to reveal all its hideous heads, but the Macapagal administration already has its hands full with the many transgressions Erap will have to explain. I hope they will not travel the same judicial route as the Marcos cases, which have been slumbering these many years to practically effect a de facto acquittal of Imelda and her family. We should avoid squandering Edsa II as we forfeited Edsa I.

There are some who fear that the fury of the mob as expressed in mass demonstrations may disarrange constitutional processes and foment anarchy. We have to examine the reasons for such restlessness.

Edsa I was a revolt against a tyrant who entrenched himself in power and defied the massive mandate of the people to remove him for his enormous offenses. Edsa II was an uprising against another despot who provoked the people's rage over his revealed plunder of the public treasury. In both cases, people power was justly exercised because, as has been truly said, *a grandes malos, grandes remedios*.

By contrast, what is mistakenly called Edsa III was not a cause-oriented action but a mere orgy of violence goaded by demagogues who inflamed their listeners to lawlessness and then left them in the lurch. The participants were not necessarily pro-Erap or anti-elite but mostly paid or *hakot* riffraff bused from the depressed areas and bribed with money, gin and drugs to go wild, or *magwala*. They did not articulate the genuine sentiments of the people. They were not the legitimate poor demanding redress of their grievances.

"Edsa 2" which was launched last month, is a valuable record of one of the most significant events in the political history of our country. It should be particularly welcome to those who did not have the opportunity of witnessing or, better still, actually participating in the downfall of a rotting regime. They can do so through the pages of this book and, if only vicariously, experience the euphoria of a people who have again succeeded in excising another malignancy.

Who is after Wahid?

COMMENTARY

Charlie Avila

AT THE SCHOOL of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, the resident student of Indonesia, Jonathan Pincus, answered the question being asked by many: Is the United States gunning for Wahid?

Read the papers anywhere, Pincus said, and you would believe that Indonesia's young democracy has indulged in the deadly sins of corruption, profligacy and price inflation. Still redemption is possible if Wahid would only embrace central bank independence, tight money and fiscal rectitude and the never-ending economic prescriptions of the International Monetary Fund.

Wily Wahid, however, senses that giving in to the IMF, as Suharto did, would even more surely bring his government down.

It is not denied even inside Indonesia that corruption is rife in the land, and any long-term solution to the country's economic woes must include a strengthened legal system, an improved public sector and more efficient governance. But all this has to be viewed against the 30-year military rule of Suharto, which left a ruinous legacy of corruption that cannot be reversed overnight.

To be sure, Wahid has taken some tentative steps to reinforce anti-corruption laws and bring some of the country's most notorious offenders to justice, like Mohammad "Bob" Hassan, Prajogo Pangestu, former Minister of Energy and Mines Ginandjar Kartasmita—the list is long. However close relationships among the military, legislators, big business groups and Suharto's bureaucratic elite do not make a swift and clean break with the past easy.

If you knew Wahid well, like the people of Nahdatul Ulama, you would expect the international community to support the pro-people reforms of his government. The IMF, however, will have nothing of this. It has held on to the latest tranche of its three-year, $5-billion assistance package because of the government's attempt to remove Bank Indonesia Governor Sjahril Sabirin and other bank officials implicated in corruption scandals. Sjahril, a Suharto appointee, has been accused of misusing about $15 billion in emergency funds disbursed by Bank Indonesia between 1997 and 1999. Recent IMF-sponsored audits also showed that $9 billion remain unaccounted for. Activists close to Wahid say the IMF's position is a natural consequence of the close working relationships developed over the years between the IMF and the staff of Bank Indonesia.

Then there's the matter of interest rates. Anoop Singh, IMF director for Asia and the Pacific, argues that "it is crucial to maintain a tight monetary stance until inflation risks have been firmly contained, and for Bank Indonesia to act flexibly and preemptively for this purpose."

The people of Wahid say that this experiment has been tried and clearly failed. There is no reason to repeat the mistake now. Any further rate increases will choke off economic activity, accelerating the depreciation of the currency instead of reversing it, like what happened in 1998. A stronger rupiah is only likely to result from an increase in economic activity, which was what happened in 1999 and 2000.

The IMF's friends in the central bank, however, followed Anoop's advice, raising the rates on its benchmark SBI securities six times in as many months.

The people of Wahid wonder if this tight money policy is really necessary. Consumer prices are rising at about 10 percent per annum, a rate comparable to those of the Suharto era when the IMF routinely praised Indonesia for its conservative macroeconomic management. In fact, some have pointed out that in the context of a slowing world economy, excess domestic industrial capacity, mass underemployment and a fragile banking system, moderate price inflation is the least of Indonesia's problems. More than anything else, Indonesia's mild inflation is due to the weakening rupiah and the resulting price effects on imported raw materials, intermediate and consumer goods. Add to that the recurrent bouts of speculation following episodes of communal violence.

From all this, Pincus said, it is clear that the IMF and Wahid do not see eye to eye, and the IMF doubts that Wahid will ever see Indonesia again from their point of view. Hence, the current war on Wahid.

Wahid does not savor the fact that in his country, two-thirds of government expenditures go to the servicing of international and domestic debt. He knows only too well that because of this, the size of the deficit is extremely sensitive to domestic interest rates and the value of the rupiah against the dollar and the yen. Every one percent increase in interest rates adds 2.7 trillion rupiahs to the budget deficit and a 10 percent depreciation of the currency adds 3.8 trillion rupiahs to Indonesia's foreign debt service payments.

To Wahid, economic growth is the only viable way of narrowing the deficit. Thus he wants a monetary policy that can provide a mild stimulus as a means of encouraging investments, increasing demand for the rupiah and boosting domestic demand. This would have the positive effect of immediately reducing domestic debt service obligations, providing some relief for the government's finances.

Thus, the all-important question remains: Can Wahid persuade the IMF to drop its insistence on excessively tight money and come to an agreement with the government on such issues as central bank independence and the orderly disposal of government assets?

There is no doubt that political tensions in Indonesia center around Wahid's relationship with the IMF whose current adversarial nature makes investors nervous, according to Pincus. It is not Wahid versus Megawati so much as Wahid versus the IMF (which is fronting for the US Treasury).

The Wahid government is no longer as important to the United States as, say, the government of Turkey, which got a $10-billion bailout program at the time the IMF broke off negotiations with Indonesia in late April. Turkey is Nato's ally, of course. But what about Indonesia, giant Indonesia?

If Wahid is toppled, what will follow, a deluge of blood?

Charlie Avila used to work with the Asian Cultural Forum on Development based in Bangkok, Thailand.

A grand plan to destabilize GMA administration?

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE ABU Sayyaf is defying the government with impunity, judging from the unconfirmed beheading of an American hostage and the hijacking of a Malaysian barge in Philippine waters, also suspected to be the handiwork of the Abu Sayyaf. President Macapagal has issued tough words about routing this "plague of our race," statements which landed on the front pages of major dailies in the region as well as international publications such as the Herald Tribune. But these words ought to be matched by performance from the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The AFP ought to rescue the President and the country from continuing international embarrassment. The AFP has to deliver fast.

* * *

Perhaps one incentive the President can extend to the AFP is to promote on the spot any of the five battalion commanders now deployed in Basilan who can bag a major leader of the Abu Sayyaf. If the new Basilan brigade commander, Col. Hermogenes Esperon, can bag the leaders of the Abu Sayyaf, he ought to get an instant promotion to one-star rank. Promoting these officers may see them jump over many senior officers, but this is a time of crisis and instant promotions are justifiable, if only to lift the morale of our people who feel so bad about the way the bandit group seems to be running circles around the government forces.

* * *

Malaysian and Singaporean newspapers also played up the kidnapping of Singaporean businessman Roger Yeo in Manila and the ransom paid by his wife. The photo showing them arriving in Singapore last Monday was featured prominently in the major Malaysian and Singaporean newspapers which also reported the concern of the Singaporean government over the safety of its other nationals in the Philippines. Filipinos in Singapore protested the racist insult of a Singaporean newscaster who said that "it was good" that it was not the American hostage who was beheaded.

The abduction of the Singaporean came on the heels of the abduction by gunmen of a US Navy officer who was taking part in a joint US-RP military exercise, and his rescue by native tribesmen. This story was prominently featured by regional papers at about the same time as the Abu Sayyaf story. Then came the assassination of Rep. Rudy Aguinaldo in Cagayan the other day.

It is entirely possible that there is a grand pattern in the recent series of developments to destabilize the Macapagal administration, so it must be on the lookout for this. It is also obvious that police and military authorities have to straighten up and smash the kidnapping syndicates and the bandit groups like the Abu Sayyaf.

* * *

To fly to Manila, we had to go to Singapore since there are no direct flights from Kuala Lumpur. But instead of flying to Singapore, we decided to drive there. The 300-kilometer trip took over six hours, but it was worth it as we got to see the beautiful Malaysian countryside and the excellent expressways, cemented in most parts, which can compare with the best in Europe. As we traveled on the highways that were so smooth that one could read in the vehicle, I recalled a conversation I had some years ago with a Malaysian who noticed that our highways were so bad. He opined that our officials stole money by producing substandard highways, whereas those in Malaysia stole by overpricing the contract. This perhaps explains the difference between the two countries' highways.

* * *

As I mentioned here earlier, both sides of Malaysia's highways are thickly planted with palm trees, the source of its palm oil export. Most of these areas are gently sloped, looking like low hills and they have been planted to trees that act as sound barriers to the few communities inland (there are no towns along the expressways, which is as it should be).

The drive to Singapore was smooth and traffic-free, with lots of big service and rest areas along the way. But we ran into traffic in Johore Bahru, the last Malaysian state before crossing the causeway bridge into Singapore, owing to the many Singaporeans who like to shop and dine at Johore, where prices are far cheaper than in Singapore. Johore is so progressive because it is patronized by Singaporeans. At the border where we had to clear both Malaysian and Singaporean immigration and customs, we Pinoys stuck out like sore thumbs since we were the only ones who were carrying suitcases; the others had only shopping bags.

* * *

Last May, 14 young Filipinos aged 18 and above, estimated to number between two and four million, were unable to vote because they failed to register in the last national registration last December. This was said to have changed the outcome of the elections to a large extent. Among the reasons cited for their failure to register was the Comelec's lackadaisical information drive and the involvement of the youth in the Estrada impeachment trial which was then going on.

Malaysia has a similar problem. Every year about 1.2 million youths reach the voting age of 21, but only about 10 percent register as voters. The latest figures show that only about 100,000 young Malaysians registered.

* * *

The chair of the Malaysian Election Commission (EC), Datuk Abdul Raschid Abdul Rahmad, has come up with a solution: enter the young people's names automatically in the "electoral roll" (voters' list) so that they have no need to register separately anymore.

The present procedure calls for Malaysians attaining the age of 21 to register with the EC during the 42-day annual registration period. The names are then verified and published before they are incorporated into the electoral roll, an effort that usually takes several months. Only then can the new voters exercise their vote.

Under Raschid's proposal, the EC will work closely with the National Registration Department (NRD) to update the electoral roll to make it more efficient and keep the voting free of fraud.

* * *

The Malaysian election chief's idea is likely to work since the government has a way of tracking down the new 21-year-olds through the national identity cards that the NRD issues to every Malaysian. In Malaysia, citizens are issued ID cards upon reaching the age of 12, but they are required to change these when they turn 18.

Under Raschid's proposal, the NRD will provide all the new voters' data to the EC data base. The only problem is the voter's address, which often changes due to the high mobility of Malaysians. But under the National Registration Act, the voters are required to inform the NRD about any change of address.

The automatic registration of Filipinos who turn 18 can be a solution to our problem with the registration of voters. But then the government has no way of finding out who these 18-year-olds are, for apart from the unreliable census of households and the community tax certificates, no records are kept. In past years, the proposal to have a national ID system has been opposed by certain sectors who feared that it could be abused, but perhaps it is time to give the idea a second look.

Fil-Am 'toxic warriors'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

CHRISTINA Leaño, 26, grew up in a prosperous Florida suburb, the daughter of two Filipino physicians who had migrated to the United States in the 1960s. Growing up, says Christina, she had only a vague notion of what it meant to be Filipino-American, and was never all that conscious that she was somehow "different" from her friends and classmates, majority of whom were white.

It was only when she was in college, at Yale University, that Christina says she came in contact with other Filipino-American youths like her. But even then, she notes, Filipino-American student organizations seemed more intent on presenting cosmetic and "touristy" aspects of Philippine life, such as putting on cultural presentations and wearing Filipino costumes, than exploring issues of consequence that impacted on their being Filipinos, or youths of Filipino ethnicity, in America.

Oddly enough, Christina's epiphany regarding her dual heritage took place while she was in Kenya for a semester in her junior year. "The scenes I beheld reminded me of the Philippines," says Christina, recalling a brief visit she had made with her parents and brother when she was a child. "It started me wondering what I was doing in Africa, when my roots were in a country that was just as poor."

Upon returning from Kenya, Christina applied for a slot in a program called "Tagalog On Site," purportedly a summer course to teach Filipino-American students Tagalog in the land where it is most widely spoken. In actuality, the program covers far more than just language, being a crash course in history, geopolitics, Filipino culture and even Philippine geography, as participants are brought all around the country.

The course, says Christina, unleashed in her "a struggle over how to bring my two identities—as a Filipino and an American—together. I didn't even know if I had the right to call myself Filipino."

* * *

THE SUMMER course not only provided Christina a deeper exposure to the land and people her parents had spoken of only vaguely in her childhood, it also nudged her in the direction of her present passion and mission.

It was during the course that Christina met families living in and around the site of the former US military bases in Angeles and Olongapo. In conversations with them, she came face-to-face with the consequences of the American military presence in foreign lands. "We," she says, meaning Filipino-Americans like her, "have no idea what the US military presence means, its impact on mothers and children."

Christina was particularly struck by the lingering effects of the American occupation of Clark and Subic, specifically the toxic waste left behind by the US forces and the continued refusal of the US government to clean up the wastes, or even to acknowledge its responsibility.

So fired up was Christina that upon her return to the United States and graduation from Yale with a degree in American Studies, she decided to immerse herself more fully in the issue of the contaminants left behind by US military forces in the Philippines. With the help of the People's Task Force for Bases Clean-up, a local advocacy group, Christina secured a three-year grant from the Mennonite Church to work on the issue. She spent a year working with the Task Force and living among the affected families in Angeles, and another year in Olongapo. She decided last year, though, that the final phase of the project should be devoted to setting up and strengthening a network of young Filipino-Americans to work on education and advocacy on their end.

"This issue is so empowering," declares Christina. "It brings our two identities, as Filipinos and as Americans, together in a meaningful cause."

* * *

TODAY, Christina is the executive director of Faces, or Filipino-American Coalition for Environmental Solutions. It involves young Filipino-Americans in eight chapters around the United States in a campaign for "environmental justice" in behalf of the more than a hundred Filipinos believed to have died from illnesses linked to the toxic waste, and thousands more whose health have been compromised.

Much of the work of Faces has involved educating communities and civic groups around the United States, including Filipino-American organizations, on the issue of toxic wastes and the responsibility of the US government. This they do mainly through talks, video presentations and letter-writing campaigns.

"We are also teaching people skills in (working through) the political process," says Christina. "Slowly, we are getting the issue to the attention of Congress." Among their more effective lobbying tools have been the "Green Ribbon Campaign," where supporters are asked to wear green ribbons to create curiosity and spread public awareness of the issue; and a letter-writing campaign to members of the US Congress, using a card that features a drawing by Crizel Jane Valencia, the 6-year-old "child toxic warrior" who died of leukemia last year.

* * *

AMONG THE MEMORIES of the Philippines that Christina most values are her countless encounters with ordinary Filipinos. She best remembers a laundrywoman named Avelina Manalo who, as a consequence of exposure to the toxic waste in Clark "had her skin peeling off and was suffering from liver and stomach problems." But Christina remembers Avelina "constantly laughing," which set her marveling at how "Filipinos can find humor in even the most trying times."

The laughter and humor are not the only things Christina remembers of Filipinos, because what impressed her most, she says, is "their persistence, their commitment to the issue and their struggle as a people."

Those interested may get in touch with Faces at info@facessolutions.org or check out their website: www.facessolutions.org

The Sangley from European eyes

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

NO one is going to deny that the Chinese constituted an important group in the life of 17th century Manila. Not only because of their number, but also because they were indispensable insofar as the economic life of the colony was concerned. (They're probably just as indispensable now, with the exception of a number of smugglers and gamblers.)

At the onset of the 17th century, the Chinese were already installed in the new Parian, the barrio constructed for them in 1595 outside the walls of Intramuros. In 1601, the Parian had a population of 4,000 and 300 stores loaded with goods supplied by sampans and junks that arrived yearly.

The principle behind the establishment of the Parian was that the Chinese would have some place to stay while doing business (and also to keep them within shooting distance of the cannons in case of trouble). But the number of those wishing to stay kept increasing and soon they became aware of the weaknesses of the Spanish administration and established a network of economic interests that the Spaniards (and frankly the Filipinos later) were unable to dismantle.

The presence of the Sangleys was so important (compared to the economic chaos their absence would produce) that their uprising in 1603 hardly scared the Spaniards and their entry was again permitted without major safeguards. Financially the colonial administration profited through the rentals collected by the Ayuntamiento from the Parian stores—these being the only rentals that entered its coffers. The Audiencia and the governors also got the fees for the permits that allowed the Chinese to remain in Manila. As a result the authorities allowed the entry of the Sangleys over and beyond the number that prudence dictated. The whole city benefited because the Chinese did everything: they were the bakers, small tradesmen, bookbinders, painters, carvers, butchers and fishermen. Everything was obtained through them.

The year after the Parian was destroyed due to the 1603 uprising, 4,500 Chinese arrived and stayed with residents or in neighboring towns until they had disposed of their merchandise. The new Parian was finished in 1606 and had 500 stores. The Chinese kept increasing and just before the next uprising in 1639 there were 30,000 Chinese in the city. The number alarmed the small number of Spaniards. The uprising was very serious but it was subdued with the help of Filipinos. Consequently, the Parian was again razed and five years passed before it was rebuilt.

The second half of the 17th century saw a decline in the Chinese population. Prudence appeared to have prevailed even if a new uprising in 1662 again exposed the need to reduce the number of permits allowed them. Even as their number decreased, their economic power and their influence on the life of the city did not. To understand the development of urban Manila under Spain is impossible without taking them into consideration.

The Chinese barrio was in reality a small town. Entering it meant encountering another culture. Its streets were drawn in a straight line flanked by small houses of nipa and wood that during the day were full of vitality as a consequence of the commercial traffic and the activities of artisans in their workshops. But not all the Chinese lived there because the authorities in Manila oscillated between strictness and laxity in the application of the laws. The baptized and married ones could live in Tondo, and the bakers in bakeries inside Intramuros. In reality there were many more living in the suburbs around the city than in the Parian, especially during the second half of the 17th century. The dispersion allowed for greater contact with the Filipinos, as a result of which there were more intermarriage. Filipinos also worked side by side with the Chinese in the workshops and as farmers and breeders of animals.

The Chinese were under the jurisdiction of the mayor of the Parian or that of Tondo. The Ayuntamiento, however, claimed that it had the right to judge their cases because both the Parian and Tondo were within the five leagues that formed their jurisdiction. Being under two civil authorities gave rise to innumerable lawsuits that wasted energy and came to nothing.

The Dominicans occupied themselves with evangelizing and even operated a hospital for them, but the Chinese weren't particularly keen about Christianity.

The customs of the Sangley were introduced into the way of life of Manila especially among the natives. The influences were sometimes very visible in the use of silk for men's and women's clothing, in the food, the use of fireworks during festivities and the Chinese theater in celebrations.

There also existed in Manila a Japanese community. In 1606 their barrio was constructed beside the Parian. After the uprising that year, they were expelled although trade relations were never severed but their presence was limited to those moments when they arrived in their boats to trade. The Spaniards were not well disposed toward Japan which they considered unreceptive (especially after the Japanese made martyrs of 22 of their missionaries).

(Data from: "Historia General de Filipinas, Ediciones de Cultura Hispanica," Madrid, 2000.)

June

YOUNGBLOOD

May T. Alzate

*We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.***

AFTER SUMMER comes June. And that's when a lot of things happen. The rain starts to fall. The roads become wet, slippery and flooded. The weather becomes gloomy, banishing the hot and sunshiny summer days.

Then comes a major upheaval as the school year begins. Mommies and *yayas* line up at the bookstores to buy school supplies. Daddies have to think of various ways to raise the money to send the kids to school. When classes open, the vehicles in the streets multiply, worsening the already terrible traffic jams.

Do I hate June? Naah. How could I, when I am a teacher?

I grew up in a household of teachers. My grandmother, Mamalola, my Tatang and Nanay are all teachers. My mother used to bring me to school whenever no one was at home to take care of me. I grew up with the children of other teachers. I was a constant fixture in my mother's school activities: Girl Scouts camping, parades, Christmas programs, etc. My father used to take me on our reliable, blue Honda motorcycle to attend graduation exercises in the barrios.

So when I ended up studying for a degree in education, most people who knew me weren't surprised. However, I actually came into the world of teaching by the design of fate. After spending a few backbreaking years studying to be an occupational therapist, I reached the conclusion that I wasn't cut out to be one. So I enrolled in the College of Education.

Being in "Eduk" was fun. The learning atmosphere was different from the tense years in OT. The students and teachers got along well in a supportive and relaxed learning environment. It didn't take very long for me to be convinced that going to "Eduk" was a good decision. And I told myself that I would strive to be a good teacher.

After studying in a college which taught me how to teach, I plunged into the real world of teaching.

The school didn't look like one. It was a one-story building with a spacious front yard, with three coconut trees close to the fence. It looked very homey. Any little child would have been easily drawn to the equipment on the playground. The rooms were painted bright. There were plenty of toys, musical instruments and books. The school intended the children to learn and have fun while doing so.

The children came in different shapes and sizes. Some were tall and lanky. Some were round and healthy. Some were brown and round-eyed; others were fair and chinky-eyed. Some came to school wearing a toothless grin; others looked sullen and always frowned.

There were pretty little girls with all the different accessories on their hair, wearing the latest from Oshkosh or Gingersnaps. There were cute little boys who brought with them their favorite toy cars, robots and action heroes. I thought Batman was a thing of the past. But amid the Pokemons and Digimons, the children still liked the caped crusader.

The parents and caregivers of the children came in different shapes and sizes, too. Most were mommies or *ates* of the kids. Many were young parents waiting for their precious firstborns.

There were also *lolas* waiting for their favorite *apos*. But only a handful of men had the assignment of waiting for some children. Some were dressed in the latest fad and fashion, while others are simply clad in jeans and T-shirt.

The waiting area for parents and caregivers was where a meeting of cultures took place. Different personalities mingled with each other. Life stories, true experiences and the latest gossip were exchanged. Amid the cell phones, cross-stitch materials and brick games, friendships were made and strengthened.

My first few months as a teacher were hard. I cried almost every week. I complained to my parents. I hadn't expected teaching to be more backbreaking than studying.

Now, after two years, I am still a teacher. But I have learned much from the experience.

One thing I learned was that children are amazing teachers. I learned how to listen and decipher non-verbal language. In a socialization class for toddlers, my students used baby talk and they understood each other, much to my chagrin. I learned to read the emotions of young children: if they're happy, sad, mad, frustrated or ashamed. I learned to appreciate small wonders in life like Mr. Sun, toy cars, butterflies in the garden and the sense of freedom and accomplishment a child feels as he goes up and down the slide.

I also learned that sometimes children act like adults. A 3-year-old boy told me as he was doing his assigned task, "*Pasensya na, pagod na ako* (Sorry but I feel so tired)!"

I learned to make lesson plans that were realistic and really suited to the abilities of the children I was teaching. In college one can sometimes make up lesson plans. But for my classes, I had to make appropriate lessons.

I also learned that parents are very good teachers. Some have smiled at me in appreciation for being patient with their hyperactive children. I have been frowned at and given the cold shoulder for supposed mistakes in the way I handled their children.

A mother once complained that I looked as young as the children in my class. I told her that was probably the reason I could relate better with the kids.

I have seen how parents talked to their children and tried to discipline them. I learned from these, too. I learned how to talk to parents, and how to help them. I rejoiced with them over their children's accomplishments. I listened to their doubts and fears about their children's weaknesses.

I have learned a lot in the past two years, but I don't think I have learned all that I need to know about being a teacher by teaching in kindergarten. I still have a lot of teaching and learning years ahead of me, whether I will be in a private school in an upper-class subdivision or in a public school in the barrio or even in Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Magic. The place where I will teach will always provide me lessons to learn. And I know there will be many lessons coming.

May T. Alzate, 25, worked as a pre-school teacher for two years after graduating from the University of the Philippines in Diliman with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Now she is looking for a job.

Notice to Youngblood contributors

Contributors to Youngblood who haven't received their checks are requested to inquire with the PDI cashier on Friday.

THEY SAID

Source of gov't's wealth

"A great bulk of any government's wealth comes from the sustainable use of natural resources from the bowels of the earth."
—***Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez***

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Romanticism RP's magic weapon

THIS year's Independence Day celebration came at an "interesting" time. In the last three weeks, an extremist group not only kidnapped individuals from Palawan but also snatched a nation's peace. It will unfortunately take some time to patch up the shreds of that peace.

But we will do it. We have lived through worse times: three colonial regimes and an unpopular authoritarian rule. And although we have fallen again and again, we've never stayed on the ground too long. Every time we stumbled, we picked ourselves up, and we bounced back with renewed determination. Then, as now, we have zealously guarded the notion of a nation free from any form of oppression, be it foreign or domestic.

The Basilan situation, monstrous as it is, is not big enough to undermine the national will. We can stare the enemy down by confronting it without despair, with, as Jose Rizal advises in "El Filibusterismo," a persistence to "endure and work (*sufrir y trabajar*)." We can make the best out of a bad situation, then toil our way out of it.

Let us bring out our magic weapon—our innate romanticism. Our urge to move toward the light, our belief that good always triumphs over evil. It is this Filipino character that enables us to deal with crisis and pushes the nation to achieve great things. We have produced Rizal; we were the first republic in Asia; our People Power Revolution inspired the world; and we have been called "the most spiritual country in the world."

So let us celebrate our Independence Day not only by exalting the nation's heroic past but also by summoning that spiritual heritage that made us an extraordinary people in order to preserve our freedom and independence in the days ahead. *Bayan, Magkaisa! Manguna!*—**PABLO S. TRILLANA III, chair, National Historical Institute**

Miriam's property acquired legally

THIS refers to the article titled "Power failure" by Vic C. Agustin published in your June 11, 2001 issue.

What Agustin wrote were malicious lies meant to undermine the senator's good name and credibility. Had he bothered to do some research, he would have found out that Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago's so-called "multimillion-peso" property in La Vista was acquired in 1992. People who want to check the validity of this statement can refer to her statement of assets and liabilities which she dutifully files every year in compliance with the law. The construction of her home has been going on for almost 10 years and now it is barely 30 percent complete.

With regard to the so-called "new Mercedes C-class," she has only one Mercedes-Benz, a 1992 model which was given to her by her sister in January 1998.

I really don't know how the INQUIRER can continue to call itself a newspaper with "balanced news and fearless views" especially when it keeps publishing unverified and false reports. The article mentioned above is one perfect example. The article is malicious, unethical and unchristian.—**FLOR OFILADA, chief of staff, Office of Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, 4th Floor, Narsan Building, 3 West Fourth St., West Triangle, Quezon City**

LETTERS

Good incentive to fight evil

THE REWARD being offered by the government for the capture of Abu Sayyaf members is a good incentive not only for concerned groups but for members of our Armed Forces as well.

This will be a big boost to their morale. The reward will be well-deserved because they are fighting evil. I think it is right to reward anyone, and especially our soldiers, who risk their lives for our country and people.—**GREG PERNIA JR., 60-B Apt 4, Madasalin St., Teacher's Village, QC**

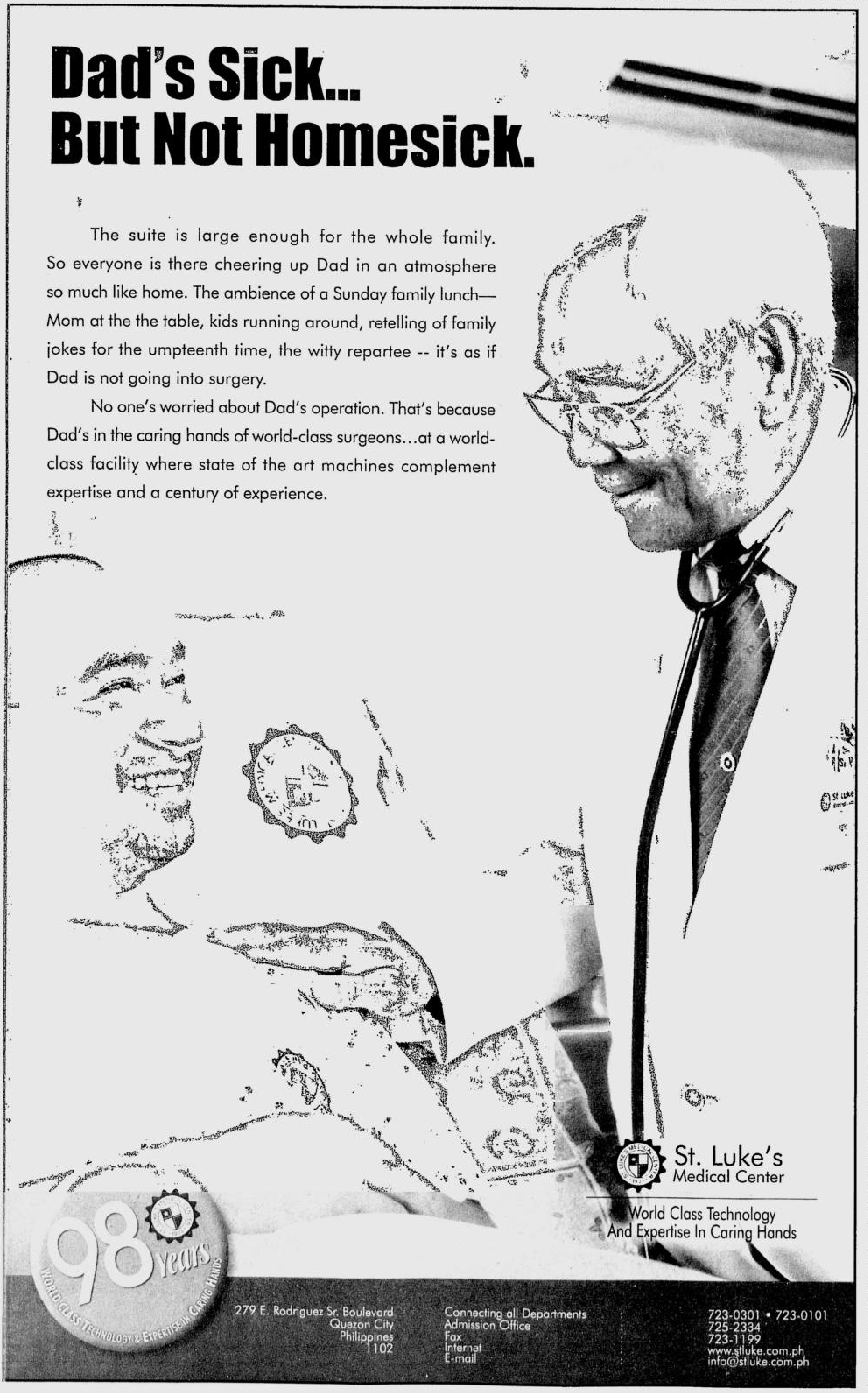
Welcome words of encouragement

THIS is in response to the letter of Keith Hamilton Snell last June 4, 2001, praising Philippine tourism. I was impressed that a foreigner still finds something nice to say about the Philippines despite the ongoing problem with the Abu Sayyaf. I never heard a fellow Filipino say positive things about Philippine tourism. Maybe our people are very depressed with the kidnapping issue.

But I'm very sure that in every Filipino's heart there is a lot of willingness to help maintain peace in our country. And yes, Snell is right in saying that the Philippines is blessed with lot of friendliness, caring, beauty and quiet joy.

There is just one thing I can say: Thank you, Mr. Snell, and to all other foreigners who have visited and are still going to visit the Philippines. I'm sure that the present situation is temporary and I would like you to know that we will be more than willing to protect you against any untoward incident so that we can make every minute of your stay in our country as memorable, safe and enjoyable as it can be. We assure you that we Filipinos will be more than willing to extend our warmest welcome when you come again to visit the Philippines. *Mabuhay kayong lahat at maligayang pagdating sa Pilipinas!*

Please visit the Philippines and we assure you that the moment you step on our country, our hospitality begins and it won't end when you leave but will continue to linger in your memories, long enough to give you a reason to come back again.—**TIM T. TRINIDAD, M.D., Osato Research Institute, 18th Floor, Ayala Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City**



Dad's Sick... But Not Homesick.

The suite is large enough for the whole family. So everyone is there cheering up Dad in an atmosphere so much like home. The ambience of a Sunday family lunch—Mom at the the table, kids running around, retelling of family jokes for the umpteenth time, the witty repartee -- it's as if Dad is not going into surgery.

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RP should take all the help it can get

I READ with sadness about the Armed Forces of the Philippines' inability to quickly respond to the Abu Sayyaf kidnappings in Palawan. It has probably not escaped the notice of the AFP leadership that had they been equipped with maritime reconnaissance aircraft that could have been quickly airborne, they could have searched the seas along the expected route of the kidnappers and probably located them long before they reached their destination, and so cut down enormously the search areas to be covered. Also, if the AFP had been equipped with suitable helicopters, a sizable troop contingent could have been quickly put down hard on the heels of those bandits (if not even before them), and constantly reinforced by a shuttle service. An emergency phone number, fully publicized, to a national control room for such incidents, would have speeded the alarm and the response.

As a former UK RAF crewman of both long range home reconnaissance aircraft and rescue helicopters some 50 years ago and with an interest in mechanized possibilities, I do feel that this approach is worthy of consideration. I said, "If the AFP were equipped..." and I expect to be greeted with howls of derision that there is no money to buy such things. But 50 years ago the United Kingdom also had little money. The reconnaissance aircraft we flew were "borrowed" from the United States on a long-term basis. Why not pursue this avenue with the US government so that it will lend suitable aircraft and crew for however long it takes to solve this problem or until the Philippines has its own? I am not suggesting a combat role for these aircraft, just a "look-see" and a "taxi" role—no more! This type of loan of equipment and crew has been done many times before, this would seem to be an ideal role for the United States at this time. Getting all the US forces out of the country in such haste may have as many drawbacks as advantages.

It is the interest of the United States to have stability in this region and the US Air Force budget that would be spent on it would only have been spent on similar training missions elsewhere in the world. Planes and crews don't just hibernate when they are not on active service, they continue with very expensive "let's pretend" training schedules. There are after all some of their own nationals involved and it appears from later reports to be just the opportunity their leaders are looking for to demonstrate to their own electorate their dedication in recovering their nationals and making the world a safer place.

While it may be a little late for the implementation of what I suggest in this particular instance, there are many other forms of similar_military cooperation that could be applied to neutralize the menace at this stage, if the politicians can get their acts together.

As a foreigner in this country, the lack of political dedication in curbing lawlessness here gives little confidence to potential tourists. I am referring especially to the reported desire of the chair of the Senate committee on security and defense, Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, to prohibit the use of foreign reconnaissance aircraft in this county at this time of trouble when the Philippines does not have the required capability for the reason that "we can run into problems with the Constitution." I am sure the kidnap victims will fully understand the senator's position and not want to trouble his conscience by upsetting his interpretation of the Constitution, and gladly accept any fate they may suffer to preserve his peace of mind. With 1,400 US troops here for the "war games," does the Constitution only allow foreign troops here to play but not to do anything constructive? Perhaps Biazon should take a look at the purpose of the limitations imposed by the Constitution and if necessary, move to amend it instead of looking for reasons not to do the most effective things possible in eliminating the problems caused by some of his fellow countrymen.

For those who feel that form is greater than substance and call on national pride to defend the positions they take, there can be no pride in refusing or limiting available help at the cost of other people's lives. Perhaps people with this frame of mind should offer themselves as substitute for the kidnap victims, both now and in the future. Putting their own lives where their words are is a surer way to determine how strong are their ideals.

To meet force with force is hardly efficient when your enemy believes he has the advantage. The only way to get him is by employing overwhelming force, and for this you may need "a little help from your friends." With all the new resources that the Abu Sayyaf members now have at their disposal, thanks to ransom payments, they probably feel invincible, constantly raising the level of what appears "overwhelming" and therefore discouraging to them.

You have a problem. Take all the help you can get!—**PETER BOTTERILL, Estancia (Zone 9), Malinao, 4512, Albay**

China, Russia, Central Asia unite against US missile defense shield

SHANGHAI—Russian leader Vladmir Putin Friday headed for a showdown summit with US President George W. Bush over US missile defense plans, bolstered by strong support from allies in China and Central Asia.

CHINESE President Jiang Zemin (right) talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a signing ceremony in Shanghai, China, June 15. Jiang and Putin presented a united front against US plans to build a national missile defense system. REUTERS

At a summit in Shanghai with China and four Central Asian republics, Putin won backing for the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty which Bush is trying to scrap to make way for an anti-missile defense shield.

The six members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) agreed the 1972 treaty between the United States and the former Soviet Union was the "cornerstone of global stability and disarmament," a Russian official said.

The defense ministers of the SCO—which groups China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan—signed a statement supporting ABM during the summit.

The endorsement of the disarmament treaty came as Bush was touring Europe to convince skeptical Nato allies about his controversial missile shield plan ahead of a first-ever summit with Putin in Slovenia on Saturday.

The development of the missile shield would effectively lead to the collapse of the ABM treaty, which Bush has dismissed as a relic of the Cold War no longer relevant to US-Russian ties and global non-proliferation.

Both China and Russia are firm opponents of the missile defense, and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Deguang said the SCO leaders were united in opposition to Bush's plan.

"On missile defense they agreed it would have a negative impact on the safeguarding of world strategic balance and security," Zhang told reporters.

The Russian leader told reporters Friday before leaving for Slovenia that he wanted a "positive, predictable and cooperative" relationship with the United States.

"The Chinese leader also asked me to make it clear to Bush about our positive relations with China as well, and that is what I will do," he said.

During a meeting Thursday, Putin and Jiang promised to stand together on the missile shield issue while also calling for "constructive" ties with the United States.

Despite US assurances the missile defense is aimed at containing rogue states such as Iraq and North Korea, China and Russia have warned the missile shield would trigger a new global arms race.

Analysts said China could try to combat the shield by building as many new missiles as possible, or by selling on missile or nuclear technology. *AFP*

Expansion takes top spot at EU summit

GOTHENBURG, Sweden—EU enlargement promises to take center stage at a two-day EU summit opening here Friday after the plan was shaken last week when the Irish voted down a treaty of essential institutional reforms.

In a referendum, the Irish voted "No" to the Treaty of Nice, hammered out at a summit on the French Riviera last December aimed at paving the way for a near doubling in size of the union over the ensuing decade.

The vote, first of 15 to be taken on the treaty but the only one by constitutionally mandated referendum, threw a wrench into the enlargement machinery, an annoying, but not a fatal setback, EU leaders insisted.

Still, the Irish glitch looked set to dominate the summit here, the main event of Sweden's six-month EU presidency that ends on June 30 and one the presidency was billing as "primarily an enlargement summit," edging issues such as the Middle East and the Balkans, security and defense, tax harmony and monetary union out of the spotlight.

EU leaders gritted their teeth and insisted the Nice treaty was fixable in a way the Irish could accept in a second referendum without wholesale overhaul or re-negotiation.

"We are very disappointed at the result of the referendum in Ireland," Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson and European Commission President Romano Prodi said in a joint pre-summit statement.

They insisted the "no" could be changed to a "yes" with minor touch-ups to points the Irish appeared to find objectionable, like compromising their traditional neutrality. *AFP*

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European allies not happy with Bush plans

By Sandra Sobieraj

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush holds to his view that he's starting to win over skeptical European allies, but those allies are criticizing him and his agenda with striking candor.

On global warming: "The problem is we think that he has chosen the wrong policies," said Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson.

On missile defense: "An incredible invitation to proliferation," chided French President Jacques Chirac.

On Bush administration moves to restrict steel imports: "Bad news... it smells potentially, possibly, of protectionism," sniffed European Union trade commissioner Pascal Lamy of France.

And when it came to Bush voicing support for an expanded European Union, another top EU official essentially told the American to mind his own business.

"The United States is not a member of the European Union and the United States is not applying to join the EU, so US views on EU expansion are rather different—the views of a partner and friend rather than somebody on the inside track," said external affairs commissioner Chris Patten.

On his maiden European tour and first real diplomatic test, Bush has taken some rough handling by US allies.

Foreign policy experts here explain the lapse in diplomatic niceties as part European politics and part Bush's own doing.

Richard Burt, former President Ronald Reagan's ambassador to Germany, said Bush is encountering a long-emerging European attitude that, without the Soviets to fear, the continent is not so dependent on America.

"Europe is beginning to form its own political personality. To some extent, in the absence of the Soviet threat, there are some Europeans who want to define Europe in opposition to the United States," Burt said.

European public opinion is very skeptical of his missile defense plans, angry that he rejected the Kyoto treaty on global warming, and against the death penalty he so actively enforced as Texas governor, said Philip Gordon, former National Security Council director for European affairs under President Clinton.

"So, for European leaders, it is good domestic politics to beat up on Bush while he's over there," Gordon said. "But I don't think we're on the verge of some huge split with Europe." *AP*

Vast Northeast Asia reeling from drought

SEOUL—An unusually long spell of drought is devastating crops and threatening drinking water supplies in vast regions of Northeast Asia, from the Korean peninsula to China and Mongolia.

The drought, the worst in decades in many areas, is parching maize and other spring crops and withering rice seedlings planted for the fall harvest. Rice is the staple food in one of the world's most populous regions.

The problem is believed to be manageable for China and South Korea. But for destitute North Korea, the impact could be immediate and far-reaching.

The drought may force North Korea's aid-dependent communist regime to seek even more outside aid. Since 1995, it has received $1.6 billion worth of outside aid, including $500 million from South Korea, to feed its 22 million people.

More ominous is an assessment by South Korean weather officials that such a dry spell could become a long-standing problem.

"We see a possibility that this kind of drought can be an annual phenomenon in the coming three or four years," said Park Chung-kyu of South Korea's Meteorological Administration.

The dry spell, Park said, is caused by an extremely hot atmospheric condition over northern China that blocks the northward movement of wet, low-pressure fronts from the south.

Global warming in the past 20 years is also to blame, he said.

Park's analysis would be particularly grim for North Korea, which suffered a deadly famine in the late 1990s because of bad weather and mismanagement.

North Korea received a nationwide average of 1.8 cm of rain between March and June, only 11 percent of the average annual precipitation, said the North's foreign news outlet, KCNA. *AP*

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Two winners of Sony Cybershot

3rd prize
Violeta Salaysay (32 yrs. old) Poblacion, Pandi, Bulacan
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THE NEPALESE speaker of parliament (right) and an aide display the guns at a news conference in Katmandu supposed to have been used by the then Crown Prince Dipendra to assassinate his royal family, June 14, 2001. Dipendra gunned down almost his entire family, including the king and queen, in an alcohol- and drug-fuelled rage, an official investigation concluded on Thursday.
REUTERS

Doubts greet report on Nepal slays

KATMANDU—Public figures and people on the streets of Katmandu expressed doubt Friday over the conclusion of the official investigation into the royal massacre, which branded Crown Prince Dipendra a murderer.

A two-member commission set up by King Gyanendra, brother of the late King Birendra, to investigate the killings at the royal palace made its report public Thursday.

It set out in detail how Dipendra had changed into army combat uniform before shooting nine members of his family in a drunken spree on June 1.

But many people were skeptical, asking how an intoxicated Dipendra could carry so many heavy weapons and shoot so accurately.

Leader of the left-wing United People's Front (UPF), Lila Mani Pokharel, said: "The royal commission's report is merely a statement without any conclusion. It is unbelievable and controversial.

"How can an intoxicated and drunk person carry so many arms by himself and hit his targets so accurately?" he asked.

"The report is contradictory and incomplete because it has failed to say who killed Dipendra."

An activist from the ruling Nepali Congress party, Mathbar Singh Basnet, agreed that the report did not fill all the gaps in the mystery of what happened.

"A drunk and intoxicated Dipendra cannot put on his commando dress all by himself so quickly within 15 to 20 minutes and carry so many weapons," he said.

But the official government line was that the investigation was now at an end.

"The report prepared by the high level commission should be acceptable to all," Shiva Raj Joshi, minister for information and communications, said.

Many Nepalis have said they cannot bring themselves to believe any son could kill his parents, sister, brother and other relatives. Rumors and conspiracy theories have been rife—blaming the army, the underground Maoist movement, foreigners, or even Prince Paras, the son of the new king, who is widely disliked. *AFP*

Mideast foes assess truce

JERUSALEM—Israeli and Palestinian officials meet Friday to assess the state of a US-brokered ceasefire was which was under threat after an Israeli soldier and a Palestinian were killed in a roadside shootout.

Israel's threat to reset the clock on a 48-hour trial period for the pact was set to be put to the test even as it began easing its crushing blockade on the Palestinian territories.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer said the truce, coaxed out of the two sides by CIA chief George Tenet on Tuesday, had gone into effect at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

The Palestinians said Thursday that although some blockade-easing steps had been taken, including the opening of the Gaza-Egypt international border, Israel had tightened the blockade in several West Bank towns.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said at a meeting with EU ambassadors that Israeli forces had been directed to maintain the ceasefire and implement all promised measures "wherever there is a complete cessation of violence, shooting and terrorism.

"But in light of the continued shooting, mortar fire and other violent acts, orders were given to the army and the security forces that wherever shooting and terrorist actions continue, there will be no redeployment of forces."

Israeli Lieutenant Col. Yehuda Edry, 45, described by public television as a military intelligence officer, was killed in a Palestinian ambush on his car on a road in the West Bank south of Jerusalem on Thursday.

An armed security guard travelling in a car behind returned fire, killing a man whom Palestinian sources identified as Hassan Abu Shayreh, 32, an activist with the militia wing of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction. *AFP*

Early Wahid impeachment sought

JAKARTA—Hostile lawmakers Friday threatened to speed up impeachment proceedings against President Abdurrahman Wahid, as protests and violence flared in several troublespots.

The national assembly is scheduled to meet on Aug.1 to judge Wahid over allegations of involvement in two multimillion-dollar corruption scandals. He is also accused of failing to fix Indonesia's crisis-ridden economy and to stop rising unrest.

A group of senior legislators said Wahid was becoming increasingly erratic and was desperately attempting to cling to power. They want the hearing brought forward to early July.

On Friday, police fired warning shots to disperse thousands of workers near the second largest city of Surabaya. It was the third straight day of violent protest against new labor laws.

Separatist and communal fighting left at least 19 people dead in Aceh and Maluku provinces where hundreds have been killed this year.

His opponents say that Wahid is unable to quell the bloodshed.

But, instead of bowing to their demands that he quit, Wahid has raised the stakes in Indonesia's political crisis. Earlier this week he authorized state prosecutors to investigate graft allegations against some key political opponents who have accused him of corruption.

The president has also twice reshuffled his Cabinet this month, dismissing key ministers as well as the national police chief.

He is further accused of planning a shake-up of the military's top brass and of wanting to declare emergency rule and dissolve the assembly and parliament before lawmakers can vote him out of office.

"The president is cornered and will do anything," said Alvin Lie, a legislator, who has spearheaded the campaign to oust Wahid. *AP*

BOSOM BUDDIES REUTERS

New Zealand model Leigh Johnson prepares to try some possum skin nipple warmers at Mystery Creek near Hamilton on New Zealand's North Island June 14. More than 500 possum skin nipple warmers were sold on the first day at Gray Fur Trading, though owner Peter Gray says sales could be attributed to near freezing temperatures.

Albania rebs declare Macedonia ceasefire

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia—Ethnic Albanian rebels fighting government troops in northern Macedonia announced an immediate ceasefire late Thursday, in a bid to seek a political solution to their four-month conflict.

"To create favorable conditions for dialogue, the NLA (self-styled National Liberation Army) announces a ceasefire until June 27, 2001," the rebels' political leader Ali Ahmeti said in a statement issued on the NLA website.

"The ceasefire takes effect from midnight June 14," the statement continued.

"The NLA is looking closely at all measures that could bring the war to an end and we welcome particularly the message of Nato Secretary General George Robertson and the European Union's foreign policy chief Javier Solana to calm the situation," Ahmeti said.

On Monday, Skopje officially suspended, for humanitarian reasons, its bombardment of guerrilla-held villages in the country's troubled north. On Thursday the government announced that the pause in its military operations would continue to allow time for political dialogue.

Earlier Thursday Macedonia had officially asked Nato and the European Union for help in disarming the ethnic Albanian rebels, but the guerrillas had vowed they would only put down their weapons if they are given a seat in upcoming reform talks.

As fighting flared in the flash point northwest, Robertson and Solana emerged from intensive emergency discussions with President Boris Trajkovski in Skopje with a package of proposals to crack the four-month insurrection. *AFP*

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Group says Pinatubo tragedy not over

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Mt. Pinatubo disaster in Central Luzon has claimed the lives of 2,729 people in the last 10 years, inundated about 500 villages and triggered floods that lasted for 30 days to six months, the Central Luzon Center for Emergency Aid and Rehabilitation Inc. (Concern) said.

These scenarios of destruction are expected to continue for the next five years in the region, Concern executive director Aida Ishikawa said.

"The Mt. Pinatubo is far from over despite the P31 billion worth of relief and rehabilitation efforts by the government in the last 10 years," Ishikawa said in a forum held here Thursday on the eve of the 10th anniversary of Mt. Pinatubo's largest blast.

She said it was completely wrong and misleading to say that the Mt. Pinatubo disaster has ended.

"In fact, the disaster has become more menacing to lives and property," she added.

The government, according to her, has been unable to control the widespread and prolonged lahar-induced flooding in Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales in the aftermath of the June 1991 eruptions of Mt. Pinatubo.

Volcanic materials, estimated by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology at seven cubic kilometers, continue to clog the floodways of those Central Luzon provinces.

The cycle of flooding events since 1992 has affected an average of a million residents yearly, Ishikawa said.

The floods in 1999 and last year, for instance, disrupted the lives of 1.86 million people and 904,147 people, respectively, Ishikawa said, citing social welfare reports.

She said floods had undermined the efforts of farmers, who comprised an estimated 70 percent of some 50,000 families, to revive their lahar-covered land.

"Authorities have wanted us to believe that floods are natural occurrences in the region. Floods did occur before the 1991 eruptions but certainly not at the extent and degree that these have happened in the last nine years," Ishikawa said.

She said it was time for the Macapagal administration to formulate and implement a comprehensive disaster response management program that would minimize the hazards of flooding, volcanic eruptions and earthquake.

She said the government should stop the peso devaluation, oil price increases, transportation fare hikes, increasing costs of living and decreasing wages that have diminished the capability of about three million residents in Central Luzon to recover from the Mt. Pinatubo disaster.

She urged the government to avoid an "infrastructure-oriented disaster response."

For example, 52 percent or P7 billion of the P13 billion Task Force Pinatubo funds had been spent on lahar-confining infrastructure that proved to be structurally unsound and deficient, if not the subject of allegations of corruption, Ishikawa noted.

In contrast, the government had spent only P3 billion in resettlement, P2 billion in livelihood and P34 million in social services.

"That there are still some 8,000 families awaiting resettlement although displaced as far back as 1992 suggest imprudent fund use and fraudulent practices in the awarding of housing units," Ishikawa said.

The infrastructure measures, however, are confined within the FVR Megadike.

While a P3.5-billion loan from the Japanese government was obtained for lahar-mitigation within the major dike, the government has "not channeled an equally significant fund to the Department of Agriculture for the rehabilitation of farmlands through lahar-scraping, new technology, loans for production inputs and marketing support," she said.

"We'd like the (Macapagal) administration to take a shift in the disaster response management programs of its predecessors. We would like it to utilize public funds efficiently by channeling these to livelihood programs, disaster-preparedness training and more effective flood-control measures," she said. ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

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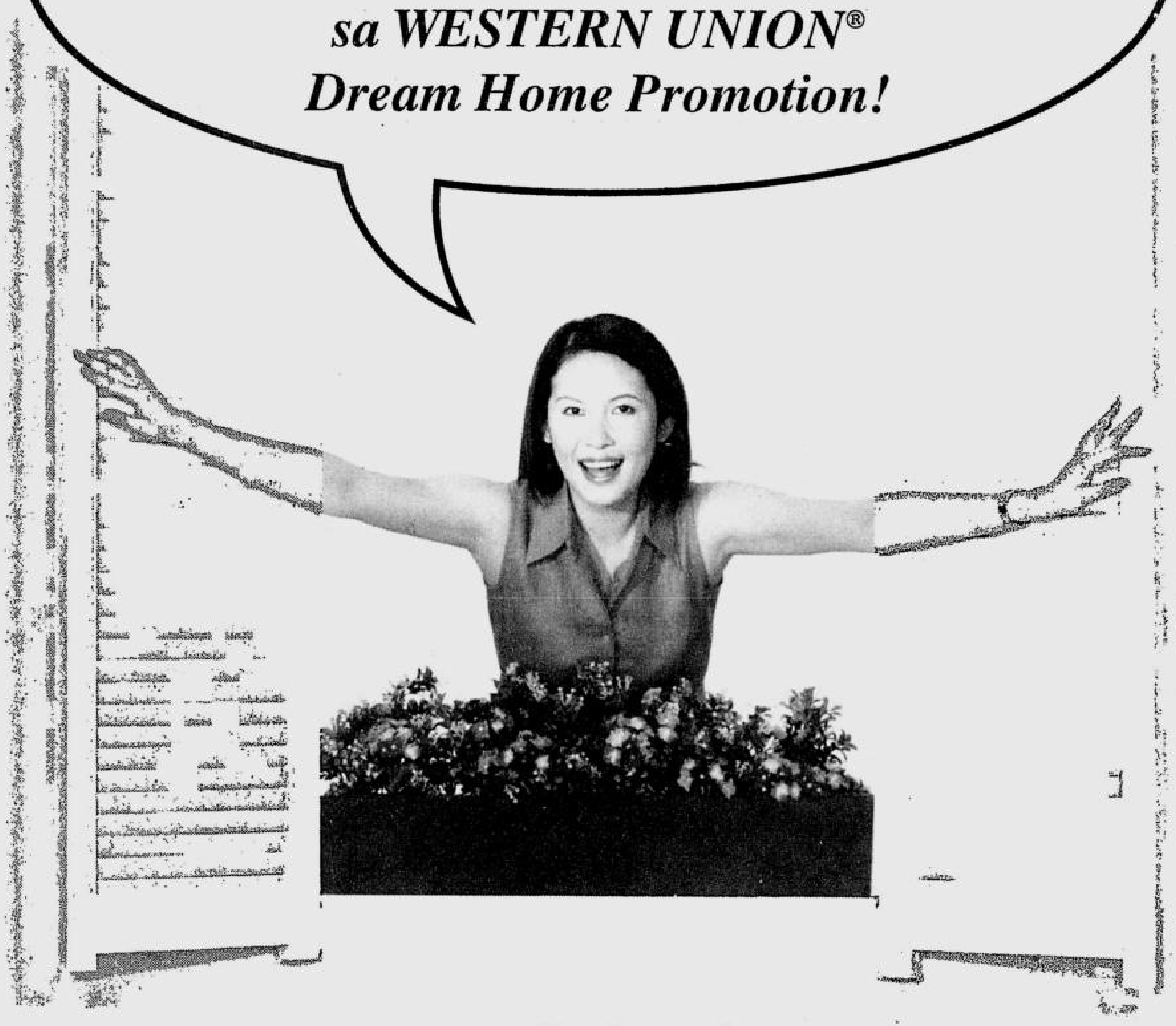

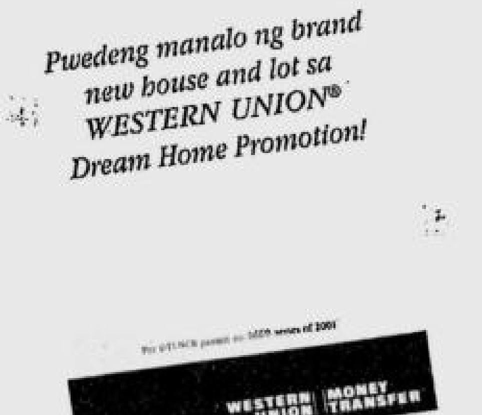
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1. Ang Raffle Promo ay magsisimula sa May 30, 2001 hanggang March 18, 2002. Mga international money transfer na ipinadala at natanggap lamang ng sinumang Filipino citizens of legal age mula sa mga kasaling Western Union agent locations sa Metro Manila ang puwedeng isali sa prize draw.
2. Sa unang pagtanggap ng iyong pamilya o kaibigan ng international money transfer na galing sa iyo sa kahit saan mang participating Western Union agent location sa Metro Manila ay mabibigyan sila ng Western Union Pass Book at malalagyan ng isang sticker ang kanilang Passbook.
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4. Kapag may tatlong stickers na ang kanilang Passbook at na-validate na ito ng participating WU agent sa Metro Manila ay papapuntahin sila sa fulfillment centers para ibigay ang kanilang Pass Book.
5. Sa fulfillment center ay pupunitin ang kalahating pahina ng passbook na may tatlong stickers at ang booklet na may raffle coupon ay isosoli sa customers kasama ng free gift na kanilang pipiliin (caps, K-wallets, T-shirts o phonebook).
6. Puwede na silang sumali sa Western Union DREAM HOME PRIZE DRAW. Mga kumpletong certificate lamang ng iyong qualified receiver (tatlong validated stickers kasama ang kanilang pangalan, address, telephone number, at signature), ang puwedeng isali sa prize draw.
7. Di maaaring ilipat ang mga stickers na natanggap ng iyong receiver (halimbawa: hindi tatanggapin ng fulfillment centers ang tatlong certificates na may tig-iisang sticker lamang).
8. Makakakuha lamang ng free gift pag nakakumpleto ng tatlong stickers sa Western Union Passbook.
9. Para makasali sa prize draw, dapat maghulog ang iyong receiver ng validated certificate sa drop box sa fulfillment center isang linggo bago ang scheduled na prize draw.
10. Kapag ito ay di umabot, ang validated certificate ay isasali sa susunod na raffle draw.
11. Tatlong DREAM HOME raffle draws na gaganapin sa 11/F JMT Corporate Condominium Office, ADB Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, sa mga sumusunod na araw:

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    March 18, 2002 (12:00 ng tanghali)
12. Ang WESTERN UNION Dream Home Promotion winner ay kailangang Filipino citizen of legal age.
13. Ang mananalo sa bawat DREAM HOME prize draw ay siyang dapat na nakapangalang receiver sa tatlong qualifying international money transfers na isinali.
14. Ipaaalam ng Western Union sa DREAM HOME winner ang kanyang pagkapanalo sa loob ng 48 hours ng prize draw sa pamamagitan ng Registered Mail.
15. Ang mga hindi mananalong entries ay isasama sa mga susunod na draws.
16. Ipagbibigay alam sa mga nanalo ang petsa ng awarding ceremony na gaganapin sa lugar ng house and lot na premyo.
17. Ilalabas din ang mga pangalan ng mga DREAM HOME winners sa print ads sa Pilipinas.
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Biliran vice mayoral race winner slain

BY VICENTE S. LABRO
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The vice mayor-elect of Caibiran, Biliran, was shot dead by two armed men near his house Wednesday evening in Barangay Victory, a village in the town proper.

Caesar Almen, popularly known in the town as "Apoy," died of bullet wounds in the body, according to a report reaching police here.

Almen was hit twice by bullets fired from a caliber .45 pistol around 6:30 p.m. on June 13. The bullets entered his body through his upper back and exited through his abdomen, reports said.

He was immediately brought to the provincial hospital in the capital town of Naval but was pronounced dead on arrival by an attending physician.

Arrested two hours after the shooting by pursuing policemen were brothers Antonio and Noel Azur. They were detained at the provincial police headquarters in Naval.

Police, however, have not issued any statement regarding the motive of the killing. But police sources said that among the angles being looked into as a possible motive in the killing was politics.

The Azur brothers are said to be avid supporters of reelected Mayor Melchor Maderazo of Caibiran.

Almen reportedly was in his yard to relax that humid evening when he was fired upon by the suspects.

Almen was on his second term as municipal councilor when he ran and won in the vice mayoral race under the local party "Bando Espina" on May 14. However, his party's mayoral candidate, Victor Maderazo, lost to his own cousin, the reelectionist mayor.

Mayor Maderazo, in an interview with a local daily, condemned the killing of Almen. He said he has directed the local police to conduct a speedy and thorough investigation of the case so that the slain vice mayor-elect can be given justice.

Almen was to be sworn into office as the new vice mayor of the town on June 30, along with the rest of the winning national and local candidates.

Under the law of succession, Almen will be replaced by his second cousin, Bulac Dalante of the Lakas-NUCD, who topped the race for the municipal council in Caibiran, one of the eight towns of the island-province of Biliran.

Civilians avert GenSan bombings

COTABATO CITY—Alert civilians prevented what could have been a bloody Thursday in General Santos City after they reported to the military the discovery of six improvised bombs in Barangay Sinawal.

Maj. Julieto Ando, 6th Infantry Division spokesperson based in Maguindanao, said villagers serving as civilian volunteers alerted military authorities about the bombs.

Radio station dxOM-FM in Koronadal City reported that the bombs were made of blasting caps, gunpowder and shrapnel's. Army authorities suspected the explosives were intended for populated areas of General Santos.

Residents saw the improvised bombs, placed in water pump tubes, being transported in a tricycle.

But Ando did not say how the bombs were retrieved, or if any suspect was arrested.

Investigators suspected the bombs were sent by General Santos City's most wanted man—Commander Roy Sidik, a Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebel leader who is facing murder, frustrated murder and extortion cases.

Sidik, who has been the suspect of police and military manhunt since early this year, was the suspect in an ambush of a mayoral candidate in nearby Tiboli, South Cotabato, shortly before last month's elections.

In that ambush, four civilians-escorts of the mayoral candidate were killed.

The MILF was quick to deny the military allegation, saying that the group has been on a defensive position since April 3 when it started to suspend offensives against government targets.

"That's always the case, we (the MILFs) are always blamed for any violent incident," said Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson.

Kabalu, however, admitted that there was a gunfight between Army troops and MILF rebels on Wednesday in Barangay Lapo in Polomolok, South Cotabato.

But then, he said, it was the soldiers who attacked MILF fighters, and the guerrillas were just defending their ground.

Kabalu said his group also suspected that the recovered bombs could belong to another group that wants to sabotage the city's improving business climate. ***Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

ROUNDUP

Gov't offices ransacked

SOCORRO, Oriental Mindoro—Three government offices were ransacked last week by still unidentified suspects. Police said the suspects destroyed the iron grills of the ABC Building here around 11 p.m. Wednesday and ransacked the offices of the Departments of Agriculture, Interior and Local Government and Agrarian Reform. They destroyed the vault of the Postal Service Office and took an undetermined amount of cash. The ABC Building is only 100 meters from a police station.

Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Gunmen kill councilor

CALAPAN CITY—Two gunmen killed Mansalay councilor Romeo P. Glori as he walked home from his rice farm two weeks ago, a police report said. Chief Insp. Policarpio Lopez, Oriental Mindoro police information officer, identified one of the suspects as Edward Soriano of Barangay Balugo, Mansalay. Lopez said the suspects, who road a motorcycle, fired at Glori, 61. *Joel J. Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Safe shellfish

COTABATO CITY—The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BFAR-ARMM) has assured the public that shellfish and other marine and aquatic resources from the region's coastal waters are safe for human consumption. Abdullah Sabdani, BFAR-ARMM director, made the assurance after the national Red Tide Task Force issued an advisory banning the consumption of shellfish due to red tide.

Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Cop killed in bus

BUTUAN CITY—Suspected members of a New People's Army hit squad on Sunday shot and killed a policeman inside a bus in Monkayo, Compostela Valley. The victim was identified as PO3 Alberto Rebucas, who was on his way home to Tagbina, Surigao del Sur when shot inside a Bachelor Express bus from Davao City. Rebucas was hit in the forehead. *Maria Kristina E. Cassion, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Cop accused of beating

DAVAO CITY—A policeman was accused of beating four inmates at the Sasa police station here on Saturday night. Senior Supt. Wilfredo Garcia, city police chief, said administrative charges were filed against SPO4 Crispin Taghoy for acts unbecoming of a police officer. Taghoy, reportedly under the influence of liquor, struck the inmates with a truncheon. The alleged beating happened after Taghoy reportedly got angry when he received a call for assistance, which turned out to be a "false alarm."

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

6 boys nabbed

BATANGAS CITY—Police arrested six boys aged 11 to 13 years, after they were accused of trying to rob the house of a Dr. Ruel Quizon of P. Herrera Street for the second time in a day. Arrested were Sony, 11; Alvin, 11; Marvin, 12; Mano, 13; Titug, 13 and Boknoy, 13. All the suspects, who live in Sitio Ferry, Barangay Kumintang Ibaba here, were turned over to the City Social Services and Development Office, said city police chief Supt. Restito Hernandez.

Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Mayor hopeful of tourism

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Mayor-elect Dennis Socrates hopes to get this city back on its feet again after tourism, the city's second largest revenue-generating industry, got a beating following the May 27 kidnapping at the Dos Palmas Resort here. He said he would "meet with everyone (concerned) to come up with a consensus on the problem."

Jofelle Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern and Northwestern Luzon, the Bicol region, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE:PAGASA

Metro Manila Hi 34° Lo 25°	Baguio Hi 26° Lo 16°	Tuguegarao Hi 32° Lo 23°	Laoag Hi 31° Lo 25°
Clark Zone Hi 34° Lo 23°	Tagaytay Hi 33° Lo 22°	Legazpi Hi 30° Lo 25°	Calapan Hi 33° Lo 23°
Bacolod Hi 31° Lo 26°	Roxas Hi 31° Lo 24°	Cebu Hi 32° Lo 25°	Tacloban Hi 31° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos Hi 31° Lo 23°	Zamboanga Hi 31° Lo 24°	Cagayan de Oro Hi 32° Lo 23°	Davao Hi 33° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/06/16/01

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OUSTED CHAIR

Palace says Nur still MNLF head

DIGOS CITY—Despite having been eased out as chair of the Moro National Liberation Front by a powerful bloc, Gov. Nur Misuari of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao remains to be the head of the erstwhile rebel group, at least in the eyes of Malacañang.

Quoting Secretary Eduardo Ermita, presidential adviser on the peace process, the ARMM Media Bureau said President Macapagal-Arroyo was unfazed by "the recent crisis which affected the organization and continues to recognize" Misuari as MNLF chair.

Misuari was ousted as chair by key officials of the MNLF following his alleged failure to fulfill his job because of the multiple positions he got after the signing of the 1996 peace agreement between the MNLF and the government.

Aside from being ARMM governor, Misuari was named chair of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development and envoy to the Organization of Islamic Conference.

Muslimen Sema, MNLF secretary general, and one of those who ousted Misuari and replaced him with the 15-member executive council, said these multiple positions are hindering Misuari's job of steering the MNLF into becoming an organization that would benefit thousands of its members.

"We feel responsible for whatever course our distressed members have taken because of the many unaddressed problems they and their families are facing due to lack of leadership," Sema said.

There were reports that there were disgruntled MNLF members who have joined lawless groups to feed their families, Sema said.

More than four years after the agreement was signed between Misuari and the administration of former President Fidel Ramos, Sema said majority of MNLF members are still economically distressed.

This led key officials to address the situation by instituting reforms and the first step was to oust Misuari.

"We aim to reactivate the organs of the MNLF to address problems facing our members. For example, the MNLF as an organization could not even attend to the educational problems of our members and their families because we don't have funds. By activating the educational committee, we hope to solve this problem," Sema said.

A defiant Misuari never acknowledged his ouster and moved on to name new officials, replacing those who joined the executive council.

On June 13, he wrote President Macapagal asking for an extension in the life of the SPCPD.

Misuari said the extension would make SPCPD fulfill its duty of being an instrument of peace under the 1996 peace agreement until the expansion of the geographical territory of the ARMM has been finalized.

In essence, the SPCPD is the de facto policy-making body of areas claimed by the MNLF as part of the autonomous region under the 1976 Tripoli Agreement.

The SPCPD's existence should have ended on May 31, supposedly before the plebiscite for the expansion of the ARMM was to have been held. The plebiscite has been postponed.

The Comelec insisted that it cannot supervise or hold another political exercise because of the recently concluded local and national elections. The Senate has approved a bill resetting the plebiscite.

This, in effect, extended Misuari's term until after a new set of officials shall have been elected in September. *Allan A. Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Raiding team seizes P1.3M in 'hot' rice

BACOLOD CITY—The Bureau of Customs and the Philippine National Police seized on Thursday about P1.3-million worth of suspected smuggled rice at a port in the Reclamation Area here.

About 1,500 sacks of rice, believed to have come from Thailand, were already loaded in two cargo trucks inside the Bredco Port when the raiding team arrived.

Supt. Tom Bañas, Western Visayas regional police intelligence chief, said the raiding team was not able to arrest anyone because the drivers of the trucks and their companions immediately escaped after detecting the presence of law enforcers.

Even the ship that transported the rice to Bacolod was no longer at the port when the lawmen arrived, he added.

Regional intelligence operatives have been monitoring reports of smuggling of rice through the reclamation area in Bacolod.

On Thursday, Bañas said they received a tip that smuggled rice from Thailand was being unloaded inside the Bredco Port, a private port that is also being used by commercial vessels.

A team composed of operatives from the customs bureau, regional police intelligence office and the Bacolod police office immediately went to the port. But the suspects detected their presence and managed to escape.

Customs collector Jerry Gonzales said customs officials have yet to identify the owners of the sacks of rice that were seized.

He said no shipping documents were found during the operation and nobody had claimed ownership of the shipment.

Last month, about P10-million worth of suspected smuggled rice was also confiscated by customs agents in one of the warehouses inside the Bredco Port. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

DENNIS SABANGAN

WAR SCARS
A soldier repairs a wall of the St. Peter's Church in Lamitan, Basilan, that bore pockmarks after Abu Sayyaf bandits briefly sought shelter in the church, making it an easy target for Army soldiers.

Guns risky on Pinatubo, says DOT

SAPANG BATO, Angeles City—The Department of Tourism in Central Luzon has warned trekkers to Mt. Pinatubo against carrying firearms, including air guns, to avoid catching the attention of communist rebels.

Ronaldo Tiotuico, DOT regional director, issued the warning several days after a group of United States and Philippine Navy personnel climbing the famous volcano was fired upon and disarmed by suspected New People's Army rebels.

The incident happened on June 5 during Visiting Forces Agreement-related military exercises at the former Clark Air Base and former Subic Naval Base.

US Navy Lt. JG Scott Washburn got separated from his group after he hid upon seeing that his companions were being fired upon by suspected communist rebels.

A massive military search operation was conducted until two Aeta tribesmen found Washburn here two days after he disappeared.

Tiotuico said 7,000 trekkers troop to Pinatubo yearly through the three trekking points that lead to the volcano's canyon and crater.

These points include the so-called "Gate of Heaven" here, which was used by the group of Washburn in Barangay Mancatian in nearby Porac town and Barangay Sta. Juliana in Capas, Tarlac.

He said professional trekkers and tourists normally do not carry firearms during their treks.

"But we are concerned about residents of Pampanga and Tarlac who hunt for birds and wild animals in areas near Pinatubo using real guns and air guns," he said.

Tiotuico said he had asked organizers of Pinatubo treks to advise their clients against bringing even air rifles to the volcano.

"We do not want a repeat of the Washburn incident," he said. *Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Governor fears collapse of talks with ex-NPAs

BACOLOD CITY—Gov. Rafael Coscolluela has raised concerns that the two recent encounters between the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade and Army soldiers may put in peril ongoing peace negotiations between the communist faction and the government.

The encounters left three rebels dead and a soldier wounded.

"The irritants that are surfacing might cause an end to the peace initiatives. When the peace process starts there should be confidence-building measures on both sides," he said.

"Supposed to be, there should be no more hostile acts," the governor said.

Three RPA-ABB rebels were killed and a soldier was wounded in two separate encounters in Silay City and La Castellana town on June 12 and 14.

The encounters were the first since the RPA-ABB declared a ceasefire on Dec. 10, 2000 as a confidence-building measure after its political arm, the Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa-Pilipinas (RPM-P), signed a peace agreement with the government in Don Salvador Benedicto town.

A few weeks after President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo assumed office in January, she formed a committee, headed by retired general Eduardo Ermita, to review the peace agreement.

But Coscolluela said Ermita should now come up with clear guidelines while reviewing the agreement to avoid more encounters.

"Ermita should initiate a call for all parties to discuss the ground rules and operational guidelines of the ceasefire," he said. "Otherwise, we cannot define how the cessation of hostilities should take place."

The first encounter was between the rebel group and soldiers from the Army's 11th Infantry Battalion on Tuesday in Barangay Camandag, La Castellana town, 67 kilometers southeast of this city.

Army Sgt. Diosado Sudayan suffered minor injuries. Residents found the body of an unidentified rebel in a riverbank in the village.

Initial reports said the soldiers were on patrol in Barangay Camandag after receiving complaints from residents on renegade guerrillas allegedly extorting from them.

But the soldiers and a group of armed men, believed to be RPA-ABB rebels, crossed paths and an exchange of gunfire ensued. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

GREEN

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Real life soap grips Negros folk

BACOLOD EXCHANGE

Ninfa R. Leonardia

BACOLOD and Negros Occidental residents continue to follow with interest the case of their province mate who is once again in the limelight in the Australian media.

The former Rose Lacson of Bacolod, who married one of the richest men in Australia in the early 1980s, is again the subject of an inquest, the second one, sought by the only daughter of her late husband, iron ore magnate Lang Hancock.

The daughter, with whom Rose shared half of Hancock's estate, informed the Coroner's Office in Perth, West Australia, that she had several new witnesses who would prove that Rose had caused the death of her father.

The daughter, Gina Hancock Rinehart, had sent her lawyers and investigators to the Philippines to contact the witnesses, among them Rose's first husband, Julian "Jay" Teodoro, and a certain Ricardo Sarmiento.

Reports from the Weekend Australian and the West Australian as well as transcripts and statements from Perth Coroner Alastair Hope, however, indicate that the inquest itself was turning into a "circus" as Attorney General Jim McGinty was quoted as describing it.

A witness, Louise Black, who is from the Philippines and who claimed to have been a personal assistant of Rose Lacson (now Mrs. Willie Porteous) later admitted that she had been paid $200,000 to "dish out dirt" against her former employer. The court ordered her arrested when she was reported to be fleeing to the Philippines and held her passport while appropriate charges are being prepared against her.

The coroner also noted that a private investigator hired by Rinehart, Colin Pace, who came to the Philippines to contact the witnesses, was disturbed upon noting that the two supposedly key witnesses were asking for more than $1 million for their testimony. Pace and the lawyer who had accompanied him to the Philippines both resigned from Rinehart's case and Pace turned over his files to the camp of Rose Porteous.

The attorney general has bewailed the time and money that the state has been using up on the Hancock case that has dragged on since the death of Lang Hancock of heart disease, liver and lung failure on March 27, 1992, at the age of 82.

Coroner Hope, in his statement, said he had agreed to hold the second inquest because of the evidence of one key witness, but added that the evidence now appears to be fabricated. He, however, added that he would not call it off because he wants to investigate further the "money trail" involving payments to witnesses.

The inquest would resume Aug. 6.

* * *

TOUGH COP. Both police and discerning residents of Bacolod City have attributed the four bomb explosions in February to a concerted attempt to portray its new police chief as inept and incapable of maintaining peace and order.

What they haven't realized, so far, is that police chief Amado Marquez may have dropped the first bomb himself shortly after assuming his post, also in February.

As soon as he took over, Marquez immediately started entertaining complaints and seriously looking into some of the long unsolved killings in Bacolod, particularly those being linked to an alleged syndicate holding sway at the Bacolod reclamation area port. His nosing around led to the filing of formal complaints against some influential people, among them members of the police force themselves.

Marquez's findings led to a recommendation for the transfer to Mindanao of nine members of the force. For a while, the group resisted, probably banking on "connections." But the national head of the Philippine National Police, then Gen. Panfilo Lacson, backed the transfer.

Since then, lobbies for the movement of Marquez out of Bacolod have gone on, but, to his credit, both media and local officials backed him up strongly.

That was when the first bomb exploded, right in the Bacolod City police office. Nobody was hurt, although property was damaged, as well as the pride of Marquez, who has since identified a member of the force as a prime suspect.

The latest bomb explosion occurred on June 6, in front of the radio station dyHB of the Radio Mindanao Network. The blast wrought damage on neighboring buildings and two passers-by suffered minor injuries.

The radio station's officials discounted speculations that the bombing had anything to do with reports that their head station in Mindanao had been censured for allegedly accommodating interviews with Abu Sayyaf leaders.

The newly proclaimed city mayor immediately suggested that the bombings—two others had taken place before the Agong incident—were linked to politics, and called out on national officials for help.

That would have been a great advantage to her cause, since a petition for her disqualification as a candidate and for the annulment of her proclamation had been filed with the Commission on Elections.

But police and other authorities have not entertained the idea, and even PNP Chief Leandro Mendoza, who had scheduled a visit to Bacolod, canceled his trip. Rumors continued to fly, however, that Marquez's relief was just around the corner.

On Tuesday, the 61 barangay captains of the city passed a resolution calling for the retention of Marquez.

People, problems breed fast in Cebu watersheds

By Juan L. Mercado
Cebu City

IN METROPOLITAN Cebu's already denuded watersheds, poverty is a twin of malnutrition, shoddy education, official malaise and birth rates that could double Metro Cebu's population by 2013.

A new study by the San Carlos University's Office of Population Studies (OPS) sketches this factual profile of over 106,000 men, women and women and children who inhabit the four watersheds.

The watersheds in Kotkot-Lusaran (area: 14,071 hectares), Mananga (6,372 has.) and two national parks in Sudlon (696 has.) and Central Cebu (11,894 has.) are today the major sources of water for the country's second largest—and still growing—metropolis. These must be conserved, if Cebu is not to slide into a semi-arid hasbeen.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources commissioned the watershed study. The OPS' Socorro Gultiano and Juvena Antiporta present their findings in "Socio-Economic Profile of the Four Protected Areas of Cebu."

Community surveys and door-to-door interviews produce new data on what makes watershed folk tick. Two out of three households, for example, do without toilets. But one of every three scramble to install a TV set, aside from having a radio.

Do watershed homes use those "boob tubes" for viewing public service shows like the Estrada impeachment and the forthcoming Sandiganbayan trial? Or for weepy soaps like "Marinella?" The study does not say.

Probably, more significant are issues that emerged from between the lines of the OPS' factual descriptions and its statistical tables.

Can Cebu, for instance, craft policies for a sustainable water supply in the mid-21st century if watershed dwellers feel they have no stake in the project?

"The watershed is not seen as a natural environment, but simply a proclamation of government," Gultiano and Antiporta said. "Conservation programs are regarded (with suspicion) and (are) discriminatory, responding only to the needs of city dwellers and the affluent."

Less-than-adequate transport symbolizes the "other world" of the city, a few kilometers downhill.

'High fertility'

Population growth in the watershed areas is a startling 5 percent—roughly double the national rate (2.3 percent) reported by last year's census. It resembles more an "imploding" city like Mexico. That increase is lodged between what Afghanistan and Bangladesh report.

The population of Bangkok, Jakarta, or Manila is boosted by streams of migrants. Until land speculators got into the act, migration into Cebu's watersheds were in trickles

Increases in the watershed population "are due mainly to high fertility," the OPS report says. There are 71 children under five for every 100 women of reproductive age. The comparable figure for Cebu province is 59. Nationwide, it's 54.

"At this rate, population in the four watersheds will... take only 14 years to double." That's faster than the Palestinian Territories (19 years) or Oman (18 years) in the Middle East.

Those increases will alter today's density charts: a still comfortable 239 persons per square kilometer. In contrast, 1,005 persons are crammed into the more populous coastal Cebu barangays—approximating Iran.

Population-driven spillovers into neighboring, less congested and more environmentally fragile areas, will be added to the list of emerging issues.

Watershed dwellers also emerge, in the OPS study, as "people of the short straw." Two out of three households struggle below poverty lines. Median household income was a pittance: P2,800 monthly.

OPS researchers were startled to find that income from the average 5,300-sq. m. farm plots accounted for only a small fraction (11 percent) in the protected areas. Remittances, pensions and rent, in contrast, "trickled up" into eight out of every 10 households.

Wasted youths

What is the future of these subsistence farms if watersheds are not protected, as they should be? "Do these people have acceptable livelihood alternatives?" was one of the questions Metro Cebu hasn't squarely faced.

"The prevalence of stunting and wasting, among schoolchildren, was almost double compared to that of the province as a whole, or 12 percent as against 6 to 8 percent," Gultiano and Antiporta said.

Half of the population of the watershed areas are teenagers younger than 18. Only a third completed the elementary grades. This dropout rate is double the national average.

Half-educated electorates, driven by expectations whipped up by media, make a potent brew, especially when demographic pressures rise steeply. Cebu's century-end population of 3.35 million makes it the country's most populous province, ahead of Pangasinan and Bulacan.

Inadequate schooling bugs watershed dwellers. About 60 out of every 100 children enroll in one of 52 primary schools in the metropolis but only a third finish Grade 6..

Seven make it through college. Wives stayed in school longer than husbands.

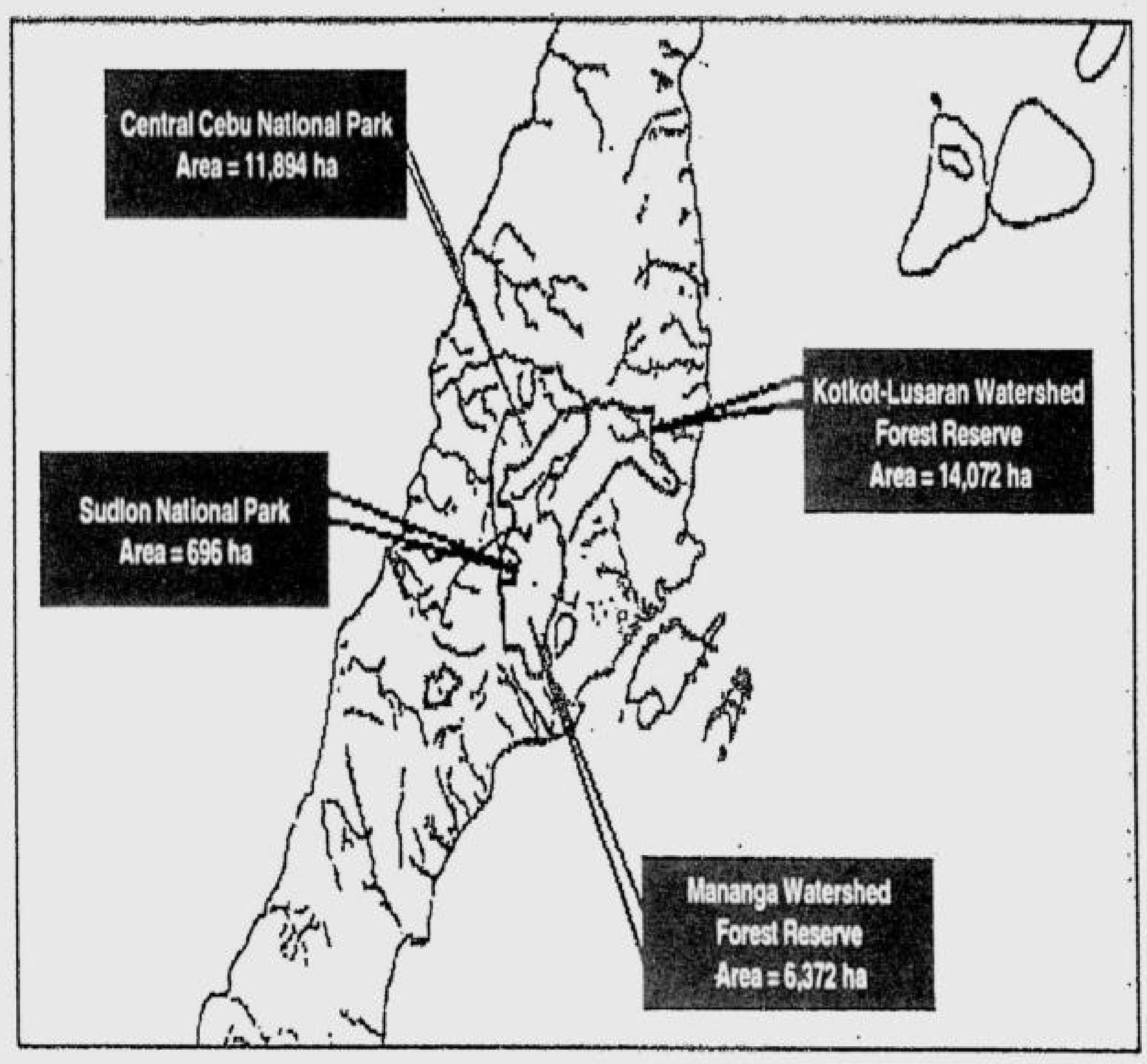
Carpetbaggers

A limp-wristed government, meanwhile, spurred lowland carpetbaggers to stake claims on choice watershed lots. A Cebu Uniting For Sustainable Water study reveals that City Hall released 12,987 tax declarations to 8,944 land claimants in protected areas. It is a recipe for future conflict.

The over-pumping of aquifers continues, even as denuded watersheds are hard to refill. Thus, the intrusion of salt into these underground reservoirs has moved relentlessly five kilometers inland.

The OPS report urges the government to improve the delivery of basic services, if watersheds are to meet the needs of 21st-century Cebu.

"Keeping the people poor, ignorant and dissatisfied will not promote environmental consciousness in the protected areas," Gultiano and Antiporta wrote. "It perpetuates resistance."



THE FOUR sources of Metro Cebu's water supply have become virtual magnets for the homeless. DENR MAP

'Lawihans:' The economics of prey and predator

By Joselito R. Costas
Malapascua Island,
Daan Bantayan, Cebu

THRESHER sharks gliding silently in coral walls are part of the spellbinding allure of Shark Point, northeast of Malapascua Island, Cebu.

But this shoal in the Visayan Sea, where it is possible to swim with sharks and manta rays, is increasingly under threat from the lucrative shark industry.

The trade lures small-time Malapascua fisherfolk into selling thresher shark fins and other products to buying stations on mainland Cebu, putting these fast, timid and big-eyed creatures under severe fishing pressure.

Shark fins, prized culinary ingredients in Asian cuisine, fetch as much as P4,000 depending on their lengths. They are dried and made into shark fin soup mostly in Chinese restaurants, commanding prices of up to P1,200 per bowl. The meat is sold for P20 a kilo.

The Southeast Asian Tropical Fish Guide describes the thresher sharks (*Alopias vulpinus*) off Malapascua as one of about 350 species of sharks. They live in tropical oceans around the world, occasionally swimming along slopes and coral walls adjacent to deep waters. They can grow up to 4 meters long.

Internet resources say that humans kill up to 200 million sharks a year. Considered highly adapted predators, they play a key role in maintaining a balance in aquatic ecosystems.

Dwindling population

The growing demand for sharks and their naturally low reproduction rate (gestation period may last up to two years) have strained their already declining global population.

Rodolfo Arriesgado, 32, a resident of Malapascua, has noticed a dwindling catch of thresher sharks in the waters off the island for the last five years.

"*Sa una daghan kaayo's lawihan, ipanglabay lang ang uban. Karon maayo na kung adunay tulo ngadto sa lima.* (Before, there were so many, we had to throw them away. Now, three to five sharks per fishing expedition are already a good catch)," he says.

Local residents call thresher sharks *lawihan* (the finned one) after its tail which is about the same length as its body. A thresher shark uses its tail to herd schools of fish to a position where it can feed on them.

Despite the dwindling catch, Arriesgado and his brother are acquiring a motorized banca, eagerly anticipating money from shark catch for house improvement.

"*Ang uban nakapatukod og balay ug nakapataud og koryente* (Some of my fellow fishermen have built their houses and have electricity from catching and selling thresher sharks)," he says.

Tourism value

What many fishermen in Malapascua failed to realize is that a live thresher shark has bigger value than a dead one.

A one-time dive at Shark Point costs $25 per person. Putting economics in, a live thresher shark as a tourist attraction is actually worth more than a thousand dollars in Malapascua's booming diving industry, considering the number of foreign divers who troop to the island. This suggests a silent war between dive shop owners and marginal fishers.

Island resident and marine biologist Michael Dacillo suggests a user's fee of $1 per dive, which will go to the barangay's community development projects.

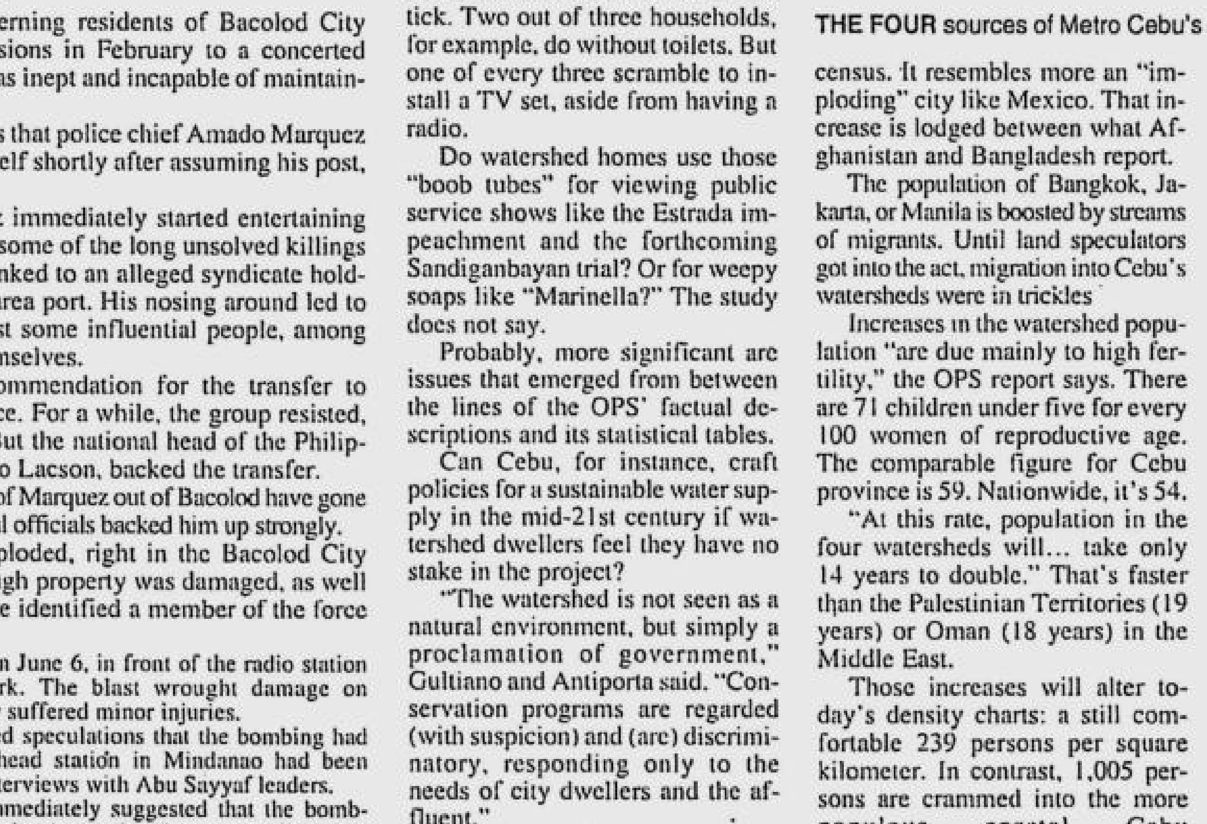
Scuba-diving instructor Dr. Benjamin Bagadion Jr., of the Asian Institute of Management, takes on Dacillo's suggestion by recommending further measures that directly address marine conservation on the island.

Bagadion recommends establishing a reward system where funds from divers will be used as bounty money.

"Use the money collected as an incentive for those who can catch illegal fishers," he says. This way, conservation efforts will be enforced and spending will be transparent.

In the meantime, Malapascua's fragmented dive shops are coughing up voluntary fees to curb illegal fishing. So far, however, its sea patrol has not created ripples yet. Neither has it caught the big fish and made waves.

So it may not take a long while before resort owners, dive shop operators, the local government, the tourism industry and the people of Malapascua see their last thresher shark glide into oblivion.



THE 'FINNED one:' a predator of the oceans has become prey. FILE PHOTO

Abu keeps 2 teens in spite of ransom

(From page A1)

in the papers," she said in an interview yesterday with radio dzMM.

She said her name could have been mentioned because she helped in medical missions during last year's hostage crisis involving a group of mostly European tourists kidnapped by the Abu Sayyaf from the Malaysian island of Sipadan.

In an interview with the INQUIRER, Lim said she did not have the skills necessary for negotiation.

But she admitted that she was tapped by the Estrada administration through then presidential adviser Robert Aventajado and Zamboanga City businessman Lepeng Wee to establish contact with the Sipadan hostages in Sulu.

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao told reporters that there had been "no confirmation" on the two hostages' supposed release.

"Rumors like that are flying all over Zamboanga," he said. "But if that were true, we're very happy that their ordeal has ended."

Reminded of the government's no-ransom policy, Tiglao said: "We are reiterating our no-ransom policy. At this point, these (reports) are just rumors."

He added that William Castillo, the government-designated negotiator, was checking the supposed ransom payment.

Letty Jao, Kimberly's mother, was also among the 17 Filipinos and three Americans taken by the Abu Sayyaf from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan on May 27. She was reported to have escaped on June 3.

Of the 20, nine Filipinos have supposedly escaped. The bodies of two Filipinos, one beheaded, have been found.

Abu Sayyaf spokesperson Abu Sabaya announced Tuesday that they had beheaded American hostage Guillermo Sobero.

But the military said no evidence had been found to validate this claim.

Only P1M

In her column in Malaya yesterday, Ellen Tordesillas said Benito Chua, father of Lalaine, sold his business to raise ransom money to redeem her.

Tordesillas said the father and several members of his family escaped the hostage raid but that Lalaine, who was sleeping in the room of her friend Kimberly, was among those taken.

The father, who ran a business manufacturing automotive bushings, sold his firm last week to raise the money sought by the bandits, Tordesillas said, quoting friends of the family.

"Members of the church where (the elder Chua) worships passed the hat around and they were able to come up with about P1 million. That's all that he has. We understand Sabaya is insisting on P10 million," Tordesillas said.

She said the Jao family paid P6 million to the bandits, but that Sabaya used the military operations against the Abu Sayyaf as a pretext for delaying Kimberly's release.

Yesterday, a spokesperson for the Jao family denied that ransom had been paid for Kimberly and that she had been released.

'No negotiation'

Victor Liozo, PNRC administrator in Western Mindanao, said it was his organization's policy not to participate in negotiations for the hostages' release.

"I don't know who issued that story. I was in Basilan the other day. I went there with a volunteer. We did not meet with any doctor to enter (the camp) and negotiate," he said.

Huda Lim said it was possible that somebody wanted to ruin her reputation. She also denied rumors that she was holding the hostages.

She said she was shocked to hear the news of her alleged negotiation with the bandits, saying she would not even dream of trekking to the bandits' jungle camp.

She invited the INQUIRER to search her house, to prove that she was not holding the hostages there.

Liozo said Lim used to work with the Jolo Provincial Health Office under the Department of Health, and as director of the PNRC.

"If indeed she went there to negotiate, it was on her own volition, voluntarily. But she could not use the name of the Red Cross," Liozo said.

Lim said she would not refuse if the government asked her to negotiate the release of the Dos Palmas hostages.

Asked about the possibility that private negotiators were secretly working on the hostages' freedom, Tiglao said: "We cannot really hunt them down. But whatever these initiatives are, we are continuing our military operations against the Abu Sayyaf."

He also said there was no confirmation of the promise supposedly wangled by a Malaysian from Sabaya that two hostages would be released Thursday.

Reuters had reported that the Malaysian, whom it did not name, was able to talk directly with Sabaya. *Reports from Julie Alipala-Inot and Alexander M. Young, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AFP*

Chavit brokering Abu chiefs' surrender

(From page A1)

to "surrender soon."

"Governor Singson has actually been informing the President about this plan since last week. Now his report made on air would indicate that his confidence that they would indeed surrender is greater than about a week ago," Rigoberto Tiglao said at a news briefing.

If the surrender materializes, Singson will be entitled to collect part of the reward for Andang, Sajiron and Susukan, who, as Abu Sayyaf leaders, are worth P5 million each, Tiglao said.

The government has also offered P1 million for information leading to the capture of each Abu Sayyaf member.

With at least two leaders and 17 Abu Sayyaf members he can bring in, Singson stands to collect P27 million.

Tiglao said that based on Singson's statements, the surrender of the Abu Sayyaf faction that pulled off last year's hostage taking in Sipadan, Malaysia, would be finalized in two weeks.

Singson was said to have traveled to Zamboanga Wednesday to lay the groundwork for the surrender of the bandit leaders.

He was said to have arrived yesterday afternoon in Malacañang to report to the President on his mission, but no statement was issued on the supposed meeting.

Speaking by cell phone from Zamboanga, Singson told the INQUIRER in Vigan City that Andang and his group would like to surrender to the government through him.

He attributed the information to retired Brig. Gen. Manuel Pepino, and said that he had said yes.

He said a courier had been sent to Andang, who was supposedly in Sulu.

"I am willing to pick him up and his men anytime, anywhere they want," Singson said in Ilocano.

He said the bandits' only demand was that they "get justice."

"It is General Pepino who would be working on that," he added.

Amnesty

Tiglao hinted that the government was open to granting amnesty to Andang and his men should they turn themselves in.

"That (amnesty) will have to be evaluated," Tiglao said.

"Our concern now is it's a major breakthrough in fighting the Abu Sayyaf. The Abu Sayyaf is a cancer in Muslim society that is spreading (to other parts of the country), and at least one section of this would be effectively excised (with the surrender)."

Tiglao said Singson had the blessings of the President and had been updating her on the progress of his mission every day since last week.

He said Singson volunteered to make contact with the Abu Sayyaf through the governor's "wide network."

The President told officials of the National Press Club in a luncheon yesterday that whoever brought in Andang, Susukan and Sajiron would get the government's bounty.

SURPRISE: Chavit Singson, the "whistle-blower" turns peace negotiator. He's with PNP chief, Leandro Mendoza in Zamboanga City. DENNIS SABANGAN

Tiglao said that even if Andang, Susukan and Sajiron were not part of the Abu Sayyaf group that took hostages from Dos Palmas, their surrender would still be a major breakthrough in the government's war against the bandit group.

"She was happy (about Singson's announcement). The truth is that Chavit Singson has been informing the President since last week that there is a possibility (Andang and company will surrender)," Tiglao said, adding:

"He has been informing the President every day, but it was only this morning that Governor Singson made the announcement on radio. I don't think he will make the announcement if he is not sure."

Face the music

In Zamboanga, Singson expressed the hope that Andang would be convinced that it was safe for him to surrender.

"That's why we came here, to verify everything, to assess," Singson said.

Col. Romeo Tolentino, chief of the 104th Army Brigade based in Sulu, said the military had also received surrender feelers from Andang and his gang.

"But the surrender has to be unconditional. They have to face the music, to face the courts," Tolentino said.

Twenty of the Sipadan hostages were freed after payment of ransom running into hundreds of millions of pesos. A last hostage, Filipino Roland Ullah, is still in the hands of the bandits.

Outgoing Sulu Gov. Sakur Tan expressed optimism on the supposedly imminent surrender, saying "nothing is impossible."

He said he believed that Andang's group was sincere in wanting to go back to the fold of the law.

Tiglao said Singson had the help of a "former military man," apparently Pepino, in contacting leaders of the bandit faction.

"We should realize that Chavit has many connections in the military, and my understanding is that a former military man who had contacts with Robot and Sajiron helped him," Tiglao said.

He said that all of the President's allies and leaders were aware of the Abu Sayyaf problem, and that Singson had volunteered his help.

"They have made their own initiatives and then Singson, with his wide network, apparently made a breakthrough," Tiglao said.

He said that should Andang and company surrender, the President would consult her legal counsel on what should be done about the group's past crimes.

"That is one issue to be discussed—what the legal implications are. But the good thing here is that even if he (Andang) has a case, he will surrender. It means one major part of the Abu Sayyaf will be neutralized," Tiglao said.

According to Tiglao, this could be the start of the end of the Abu Sayyaf.

"The President will make the decision on that after consulting her legal counsel," he said.

As for the bounty, Tiglao said the money would be given as long as the surrender fell within the guidelines of the Armed Forces and Philippine National Police.

"If they fall under these guidelines, therefore by our regulations, they could benefit from it. You cannot exclude anybody," he said. *With reports from Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Dave Veridiano in Manila*

Erap men offer critical collaboration

(From page A1)

If the Macapagal administration is serious about its supposed spirit of reconciliation, Aquino said, it should give "some signal" to show its sincerity.

He said, for instance, it is not enough for Malacañang to say it has no objections to house arrest.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, he said, should just see to it that house arrest is carried out.

"Why don't we just have this implemented and no more of these 'good intentions'," he said. "Let us see if he will really be going back home while undergoing trial."

In so doing, he said, the Macapagal administration would be able to sit down with the opposition and draft a common legislative agenda to address the country's problems.

"And we want to help the President in addressing these very important problems that are facing us today," Aquino said.

But Malacañang didn't take the bait.

"House arrest is beyond the (jurisdiction of) the executive branch," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said, noting that the Sandiganbayan has already ruled that Estrada should be detained at Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

"If they want to pursue house arrest (for him), they have to elevate it to the Supreme Court," Tiglao said.

Willing to help

Angara, for his part, said it was time for the government to stop making "rhetorical exhortations" and implement what it promises.

He also said that for "reconciliation and unification" to happen, the government must set objectives and programs that both the government and the opposition can agree upon.

"We are willing to help identify and define the problem and help come up with a solution that we can both believe in and push forward," he said, saying he did the same in 1992 as Senate President under the Ramos administration.

"We sat down with Ramos and we drafted a common legislative agenda," he said of the opposition's role then in passing key economic measures favored by Ramos.

In promising their cooperation, he claimed that the country is worse off than before.

"This time there may be a greater need to come together and come up with a legislative program that will address immediately the problems of economy, peace and order and security," he said.

"Believe me, the economy is falling apart and falling apart fast," said Angara, Estrada's former executive secretary, mouthing the same criticism hurled against the previous administration.

In court

Nario and Ferrer, the two judges who withdrew from the perjury case yesterday, had ruled last month to reset Estrada's arraignment from May 25 to June 27, overruling a third judge, Rodolfo Palattao, who issued a dissenting opinion.

Nario and Ferrer said the split decision cast a "cloud of doubt" on "our ability to comport ourselves as impartial, dispassionate, objective, and unbiased magistrates."

While claiming that "we do not deserve" the suspicion, they said they would disqualify themselves from the case "for the peace of mind of everyone concerned."

Estrada also faces the more serious charge of plunder, which is punishable by death.

The third division of the Sandiganbayan set his arraignment on charges of plunder and the illegal use of alias for 2 p.m. on June 27, and directed the Philippine National Police to present the accused in court on that day.

Despite the inhibition of the two justices of the fourth division, there is also a possibility that Estrada will be arraigned on the perjury charge on June 27.

Bail hearings

The Sandiganbayan also canceled bail hearings for Estrada and his co-accused Jinggoy Estrada and Edward Serapio from June 18-22.

The court instead ordered the Estradas to appear for the bail hearings from June 25-28, although only Serapio had petitioned the court for bail in the plunder case.

Justice Anacleto Badoy, chair of the Sandiganbayan's third division, said the court decided to cancel the first round of bail hearings to give the justices time to study various motions filed before the court.

"I would rather that we are delayed a little as long as the resolutions are based on thorough, adequate study, rather than we go fast and yet come up with a haphazard study that does not do justice to the parties," he added.

Among the issues that they have to resolve are the motions to quash the plunder case and the motion to reconsider the court order compelling the Estradas to participate in the bail hearings even if they have not petitioned for bail.

All-star cast

The two motions were among five that were tackled during yesterday's hearing, where the prosecution also unveiled its team.

The prosecutors included Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, his deputy Margarito Gervacio, Solicitor General Simeon Marcelo and some of the private prosecutors that had also participated in Estrada's aborted impeachment trial, like Arno Sanidad.

Lawyers Rene Saguisag and Jose Flaminiano led the defense team at the hearing.

Other motions concerned the defense plea to have the June 9 house arrest resolution reconsidered and their call to have Badoy inhibited.

The court also discussed a motion filed by the younger Estrada, who wants to be granted leave to clear his desk as outgoing San Juan mayor, and the move to have former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson included in the plunder case.

Backtracking

The Estrada defense panel backtracked on their bid to have Badoy inhibited from the case. Saguisag said he would have to discuss the matter further with his colleagues.

He made the statement after Associate Justice Ricardo Ilarde asked Saguisag if he knew that the move to have Badoy inhibited would mean the transfer of the case to another division, since Badoy was the chair of the third division.

Saguisag's move to have Badoy inhibited could be interpreted as "forum-shopping," according to Solicitor General Marcelo and Ombudsman Desierto.

The Ombudsman told the court that the move was part of defense efforts to "create an atmosphere of fear."

"These threats should be stopped," Desierto said.

He asked the court to censure Saguisag for his "manifest lack of due regard for the dignity and integrity of the honorable court."

'Reckless statements'

Also yesterday, the militant farmer's group Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) warned Malacañang against issuing "reckless statements" that might unduly influence the Sandiganbayan's decisions in the Estrada case.

KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos specifically hit the Palace's statement that it preferred Estrada to remain at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He said this could have "very serious implications" on the approaching trial.

"Instead of issuing reckless statements that might influence the Sandiganbayan's decisions regarding the case, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo must exercise and invoke the full extent of the law against" Estrada, who has been accused of plunder and massive graft, Ramos said.

"Any form of special treatment for the Estradas, like hospital arrest or granting them bail, that might lead to the dismissal of the case, is a slap on the face of the people who vigorously struggled to oust the anti-people Estrada regime," Ramos added. *With reports from Juliet L. Javellana, Philip Tubeza*

Republic of the Philippines

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

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NOTICE

Please get in touch with the Members Assistance Center, Social Security System (SSS), East Avenue, Quezon City or at any SSS office nearest your place of residence and file your death benefit claim within 90 days upon publication, if you are:

	NAME OF BENEFICIARY	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS	NAME OF SSS MEMBER	DATE OF DEMISE
1.	ALMA AGUIRRE	Unknown	LORENZO L. AGUIRRE SS# 06-0971928-4	December 19, 2000
2.	ELSIE M. ALARIN PINKY NOVAL	Bais Negros Oriental Ibo, Lapulapu City Ibo, Lapulapu City	RICARDO M. ALARIN SS# 06-1146845-5	July 20, 2000
3.	RICHARD ANDIANO	Unknown	EMELDA ANDIANO SS# 03-5037970-8	October 17, 2000
4.	JONATHER O. CANETE	Manila	FELICIANO CANETE SS# 03-3364237-1	January 30, 1999
5.	DIOSDADO DC. DELA PAZ	Laguna	GERTRUDES DELA PAZ SS# 03-3529462-0	January 23, 2000
6.	MA. CONSUELO ESARZA	536-A Bonifacio Ave Quezon City/ Mabini Bohol	BONIFACIO ESARZA SS# 03-8637173-8	November 11, 2000
7.	FLORITA	Unknown	MANUEL GACOSTA SS# 03-0486646-1	January 18, 2001
8.	JUAN ROSARIO	Unknown	FLORENDA GORDOLAN SS# 03-0476599-9	June 5, 2000
9.	ROSAMINDA RODRIGUEZ	Pilong Gatang St., Tramo, San Dionisio, Parañaque City	LUCITO O. JIMENEZ SS# 03-3854134-1	June 19, 2000
10.	ASHA SAMISA MACATANGCAL	Mindanao	ABDULLAH MACATANGCAL SS# 33-3336075-7	September 29, 2000
11.	NORBERTA BALUGO/ ROBERTA BALUGO	Unknown	LORENZO P. MALUBAY SS# 08-0333740-4	August 7, 1998
12.	ARTURO MARCASOTE	Unknown	DENIA MARCASOTE SS# 07-0300808-2	March 8, 2001
13.	ARTEMIO FERNANDEZ	Sta. Barbara, Ibayo, Taguig	JUDITH G. MAYLAS SS# 33-4957051-5	December 16, 2000
14.	FLAVIANA PAGKALIWANGAN	San Juan, Metro Manila	MANUEL MENDOZA SS# 03-1166852-6	October 11, 2000
15.	VIRGINIA MIGUEL	Unknown	ELISEO MIGUEL SS# 03-0063969-2	December 11, 2000
16.	EDNA & DIVINA NELMIDA	Unknown	PRIMITIVO NELMIDA SS# 06-0203988-0	March 26, 2001
17.	ELSIE D. OLIVERIO	Unknown	BENJAMIN OLIVERIO SS# 08-0637017-0	December 7, 2000
18.	THELMA GALLEGO BONIFACIO QUILAPIO	Aklan	VEVENCIO QUILAPIO SS# 03-3935901-1	October 12, 1999
19.	CRISANTA ARAYON	Unknown	TEODORICO REGONDOLA SS# 03-0026831-9	February 1, 2001
20.	LILIA P. RODRIGUEZ	Unknown	Job A. Rodriguez SS# 08-0230691-5	February 11, 2000
21.	OFONITO/JONITO SALAS	Quezon City	ELISA SALAS SS# 33-0411383-6	August 5, 2000
22.	NENITA GARCIA EDUARDO SANTOS	Unknown	RICARDO SANTOS SS# 03-1428932-0	June 18, 1998
23.	EVELYN ROBLES	Hda, San Miguel La Carlota City	FELIX S. SAPALARAN SS# 07-0894454-9	November 7, 2000
24.	TERESITA SIMEON MEDELYN ISLES	Unknown	RONOLFO T. SIMEON SR. SS# 33-3983561-3	November 19, 2000
25.	MAMERTA A. SOLOMON	Unknown	ARMANDO SOLOMON SS# 03-1621005-0	March 26, 2001
26.	EDITH RELIMBO	Unknown	ANGEL TICSAY SS# 03-1497883-1	September 21, 2000
27.	PACITA JOCSON	Unknown	FELIPE TOMAS SS# 03-0060876-2	November 10, 2000
28.	ADELFA SINECA ULYSSES	Davao City	JOEL PASCUAL TY SS# 09-1324572-9	June 4, 1999
29.	VIRGILIO VILLANUEVA	Unknown	JOSEFINA VILLANUEVA SS# 06-0367190-4	May 30, 2000

(PDI--June 16, 2001)

Woods stumbles, Irwin shines in stormy Open

TULSA, Oklahoma—Tiger Woods cursed, tossed his clubs and stammered around the course like a 56-year-old golfer.

If only he could have played like one.

Woods' expected march to a fifth straight major triumph got off to a stormy start yesterday at the U.S. Open _ and we're not just talking about the rain and lightning.

Stealing the thunder was Hale Irwin, the oldest man on the course, striking the shots usually found in Woods' arsenal.

Southern Hills Country Club was in a frenzy as Irwin walked up the 18th fairway, whipping his cap like a lasso after a laser 2-iron from 198 yards (meters) rolled to a stop less than 2 feet (0.6 meters) from the flag.

The gimme birdie left Irwin with a 3-under-par 67, the leader among 66 players who completed play before thunderstorms forced a suspension late yesterday afternoon.

"In my world, I would take the experience over youth any time, particularly in these kind of situations," Irwin said. "That experience factor, it's priceless."

And what about Tigermania? Woods hit his first shot in the rough, an omen of the troubles to come. He bogeyed the third hole, double-bogeyed the ninth and left the course at 3-over par when play was halted.

Not the kind of shotmaking one might expect from the only player to hold all four major titles at the same time.

Irwin won the first of his three Open titles in 1974 at Winged Foot _ 18 months before Woods was born. There would be another championship in 1979, then his memorable victory in 1990 at Medinah, where Irwin became the oldest Open champion at 45.

Eleven years later, he's again showing the youngsters a thing or two.

"I just enjoy the heck out of it, being around these younger guys," said Irwin, a regular on the Senior Tour. "I don't know if I'd take it on as a steady diet. They'd thrash me unmercifully. But I had my day and that was fun."

Ninety players in the 156-man field will return to the course at 1200 GMT Friday to complete their rounds.

Woods will be facing an 8-foot (2.4-meter) par putt on No. 10 and a long day of trying to make up for the lost time.

Retief Goosen of South Africa birdied the seventh hole just before the sirens sounded and was tied with Irwin at 3 under. Toshi Izawa of Japan was at 2 under after four holes.

Loren Roberts and Stewart Cink were the only other players who finished their rounds under par, both at 69.

Phil Mickelson made back-to-back bogeys on the back nine to finish at 70, along with Sergio Garcia, Angel Cabrera and Matt Gogel. Davis Love III, playing for the first time in two months because of neck and back injuries, bogeyed the last two holes for a 72.

Irwin, who qualified by winning the Senior Open, can become the oldest first-round leader of the U.S. Open since World War II if his 67 holds up. Where he goes from there is anyone's guess, but he won't rule himself out yet.

"It's not like I've never been here before," he said.

Irwin has won the U.S. Open three times, one fewer than Jack Nicklaus and Ben Hogan and two more than Woods. In 1990, he was given a special exemption to play and beat unheralded Mike Donald in a playoff.

Who can forget Irwin prancing along the ropes slapping high-fives with the gallery after a 45-foot (13.5-meter) putt on the 72nd hole to get into a playoff?

There he was again yesterday, his hair more salt than pepper but the enthusiasm and desire unchanged.

He pumped his fist and mouthed "Wow!" to his caddie when he holed a momentum-saving 25-foot (7.5-meter) par putt on the 16th.

As for Woods, he scrambled to save par on the first two holes, then 3-putted for a bogey at No. 3. Five more pars followed, then disaster at the ninth hole.

With about 90 yards (meters) to the green, Woods hit his wedge fat and out to the right. It clipped a branch and plugged into the bunker, and he could do no better than blast out over the green into the thick Bermuda rough.

His pitch for par rolled 8 feet (2.4 meters) past the hole, and he lipped that out for double bogey.

With more storms coming and Southern Hills already soaked, the U.S. Golf Association called it a day after a delay of 90 minutes. *AP*

Delasin 5 behind

DOROTHY Joy Delasin carded a two-under-par 70 yesterday and was 5 shots behind at the halfway mark of the $2.1 million Evian Masters in France. Maria Hjorth of Sweden fired a 65 for a 1-shot lead over Beth Daniles (68). *Jong Arcano*

IRWIN, 56, exulting after surprisingly grabbing the first-round lead. AP

Rosales, Cantada girding for rematch

ROSALES CANTADA

GERALD Rosales returns to defend his crown and Gerard Cantada makes his much-awaited pro debut as both gird to renew their rivalry in the 86th Philippine Open golf championship June 28-July 1 at the fabled east course of Wack Wack.

Three years after playing together in the national team, Rosales and Cantada—who had figured in one of the most intense amateur rivalries hereabouts—will see themselves battling for their own personal goals.

Mimosa 5th leg host

THE MIMOSA Golf and Country Club will host the fifth leg of the Titleist-Footjoy national amateur circuit on June 19-22. The NGAP-organized event will serve as the final warm-up of the country's national team hopefuls before they play in the Philippine Open the following week.

Casino Filipino and San Miguel Beer are the co-presenters of the event which is putting P9.5 million in prize money for the Open which is jointly staged by the National Golf Association of the Philippines and the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club.

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines, Inc. is providing the hole-in-one package for the pro-am on June 27 and the tournament proper. The other backers are Hanjin Shipping, General Milling, Bingo Bonanza, Prudential Life, Cinnabon, Citra Tollways, Rudy Project, Tretorn, Marsman Drysdale, Pyramid Construction, Add Force Services, Mizuno, Citgo, Electrobus Consolidated, Solahart, GG&A Club Shares, Philtec Label, U-Bix, Nextel, Wallem Shipping and Caffe Appassionato.

Cantada's crack at the pro ranks came more than a year after Rosales did the same.

The portly Cantada will have the slight edge since he practically grew up at Wack Wack and knows every corner of it.

Cantada will have the distinction of being the only player in the cast who is actually a member of the posh Wack Wack club.

Meanwhile, the roster of the foreign contingent grew to 53 with the entry of the multi-titled Nico Van Rensburg of South Africa, a childhood friend of the eminent Ernie Els, and 19 others over the past week.

Dela Paz pockets Singapore crown

SINGAPORE—The Philippines' Gian Carlo Dela Paz closed out with an 86 to rule the B Division in the recent Volkswagen Singapore Junior Open 2001 tournament here.

Dela Paz (13-15 year old) had earlier played the Tanah Merah Golf and Country Club course with rounds of 83 and 94 to emerge the lone Filipino winner with 263.

Jenz Tecson came up with a final round 73 to capture second place in the A Division.

"All the players gave their best shot but Gian Carlo saved the day for us," said Philippine delegation head Edgardo "Tito Boy" Cantada. "He prevented us from being shut out."

Echoed his son, Gerard, the newly turned professional and team coach, "Despite that second round 94, Gian Carlo was able to come back in the final day. That's what you call heart."

Fabregas ace

JIMMY Fabregas made a hole-in-one at the Aguinaldo Golf Course recently. He used a Callaway 5 iron and an Ultra 2 ball for the 150-yard par 3 11th hole. Fabregas' flightmates were Ayo Calma, Boy Tan, Al Mandala and Dom Lagayon. It was Fabregas' second ace.

Manila, 16 others join Palaro

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo mingles with some 5,000 streetchildren from all over Metro Manila during the formal launching of the Palaro ng Batang Lansangan today at the Rizal Memorial Track and Field Oval.

Seventeen cities and municipalities representing Manila, Mandaluyong, San Juan, Makati, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Taguig, Pateros, Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela, Quezon City, Marikina and Pasig are expected to send participants to the event.

"As parent and mother, President Arroyo has vowed to improve the welfare and well-being of the country's less privileged children. We believe that sports is an effective tool to attain this objective," said Philippine Sports Commissioner Cynthia L. Carrion, Chairperson of the organizing committee.

"President Arroyo has always had a soft spot for the poor and the PNBL is also an expression of her concern for the needs of the needy and underprivileged," Carrion added.

"The year-long program aims to offer recreational and sports opportunities for street children while instilling in them the basic values of discipline and hard work so they can become future productive citizens," said PSC Chairman Carlos D. Tuason, overall program chair.

The PNBL, presented by Caltex Philippines and supported by the Ginintuan at Makabayang Alay Foundation, the Department of Health, Armed Forces of the Philippines—Philippine National Police, Pepsi Cola Philippines, Lifeline, Sage Casino, Tourist Trade and Travel Corp., Prama Foundation, and Philtranco, also serves as a venue for the PSC to identify potential athletes.

In 1998, President Arroyo, then Vice President and Social Welfare Secretary, and the PSC under chair Tuason initiated the Palaro ng Batang Lansangan not only to help alleviate street kids from social dislocation, but also to develop their all-rounded personality through sports.

President Arroyo will lead the symbolic distribution of Family Packs and Balik Eskwela Packages to selected parents and children while First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, PNBL honorary chair, will light the ceremonial torch in today's colorful kickoff rites, which will be staged with the help of the DSWD and DILG.

Malvar cockfest tonight

BIG-TIME cockers in Metro Manila and the suburbs will be treated again to fiery encounters with the holding of the Malvar Cockers 4 Cock Derby at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque City today.

Hosted by Capt. Berto Lat of Malvar, Batangas, this derby will be participated in by the Malvar Cocking Association, George Fajardo, Toto Papag, Lanie Hinges, Boy Espineli and Jun-jun Esperanza of Laguna.

This will also be supported by respected cockers in Metro Manila such as Nicky Lim, Jun Sevilla, Jun Topacio, Rudy Salud and the group of Boy Lechon.

Danny (Showdown) Ty, known for his "bilis laban, bilis bayad" slogan, announced that submission of weights between 1.8 kg and 2.4 kg is today—the day of the fight—from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Goddard Asian Formula 3 favorite

BRITISH Mark Goddard is the top favorite, but Filipino drivers Jojo silverio, Philip Alvendia, Richard Joson and Pepon Marave are expected to provide the biggest challenge in the second leg of the Philippine Asian Formula 3 Challenge at the Subic International Raceway tomorrow.

Goddard put up a near-flawless performance against his equally talented Filipino rivals and swept the opening two rounds in this prestigious 12-part series also sponsored by Ford Philippines, Casino Filipino, RX 93.1 and Forest Hills.

A full-time member of the British Racing Drivers Club, Goddard clocked the best time of 20:43.482 in the 15-lap race held at the Batangas Racing Circuit on April 29, including the fastest lap time of 1:14.083.

Although Subic may pose an entirely new challenge, Goddard also had plenty of success in the 2.8 kilometer circuit built on the former American naval base.

Goddard, who also served as safety driver in both the Formula 1 and World Touring Car Championships, shared the limelight with Quick Hunnisett driver Daynom Teppleman of New Zealand by winning one race each during the 1999 Asian Festival of Speed.

Asuncion, Llanes win

KENNIE Asuncion blasted her way to the women's open finals and Jaime Llanes continued to slay the giants yesterday in the JVC Open Badminton Championships.

Asuncion, the women's singles top seed playing out of Valle Verde, barely gave out a sweat in her 11-2, 11-2 conquest of teammate Margot Manalang.

Llanes defeated Rodel Bartolome, 15-5, 15-11.

Zed Gulf dominates saloon races

THE ZED Gulf Oil MP Turbo Racing Team churned out its best performance in the 2001 SVI Saloon Racing Championships when its drivers dominated the 5th and 6th rounds of the series a fortnight ago.

ZED Gulf Oil MP Turbo team manager Mike Potenciano, however, believes that his team can still do better when the series resumes at the SBMA-SVI Raceway in the Subic Bay Freeport this weekend.

Potenciano had nothing but praises for his team.

"Our victory the last time around was the result of the concerted effort of everyone in the team, from the sponsors and drivers, down to our mechanics and supporters," said Potenciano. "I believe that we can duplicate that prolific weekend, perhaps even do better, if we stay focused on our goals," he added.

The ZED Gulf Oil MP Turbo team's other benefactors this season are BLTB Co. Outback Steakhouse, Dyno Max Car Shop, Goma King Trading, Hankook Batteries, AER Engine Rebuilders, Abante Newspaper, Universal Motor Corp. and Francisco Motor Corp.

Louie pleads case to GMA

Her Excellency Gloria
Macapagal-Arroyo
President of the Republic
of the Philippines

Your Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your morals, strength and wisdom—virtues I strongly believe will act as a beacon to my fellow Filipinos to unite. I truly appreciate your gallant stand in these tough times.

My family and I would like to seek your help on a serious matter that was attempted but never resolved since December 6, 1997. The issue is my prize money during my WBC World Featherweight Title Bout against Mr. Carlos Rios of Argentina. The bout was held in Koronadal, South Cotabato. The actual promoter is Gov. Hilario de Pedro III. The issue at hand is the unpaid purse of $150,000.

I have taken great strides in fulfilling my obligation to fight under the prestigious World Boxing Council's rules and regulations. Despite the heartaches and pains my family and I have undergone, I have never lost focus in representing the Filipino people—the prestige of my WBC Featherweight title is one I cannot overemphasize. Please note, I was the first Filipino to win the WBA Bantamweight Championship under the auspices of Hermie Rivera, father of my manager Emmanuel Rivera. I am the only Filipino boxer who has defended the featherweight crown a record 7 times. Currently, I am seeking to regain my crown under the auspices of my friend and manager Emmanuel Rivera.

ESPINOSA with daughter Janica (left) and son John Louie.

I would like to dedicate my final run for the World Featherweight Championship to you and the Filipino people.

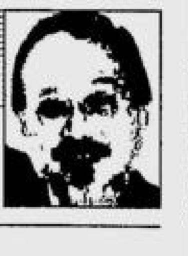
Thank you and *Mabuhay po kayo!*

Sincerely,

(Sgd.) Luisito Espinosa

(Sgd.) Emmanuel Rivera, Attorney-in Fact

Time to go, too



WHAT CAN I SAY

Bebo Quiros

WITH the appointment of a new chairman to the Philippine Racing Commission, this writer, as promised the new appointee and in deference to the appointee's wife and children, will lay down his pen and take a sabbatical. For the first time in thirty years, we will leave the role of communicator to others. Herewith follows the notice from Malacanang, dated June 5, 2001, addressed to the Honorable Andrew S. Sanchez, to wit:

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of existing laws, you are hereby appointed Chairman, Philippine Racing Commission, Office of the President, vice Benedicto K. Katigbak for a term expiring on July 2, 2002.

By virtue hereof, you may qualify and enter upon the performance of the duties of the office, furnishing this Office and the Civil Service Commission with copies of your oath of office.

(Sgd.): Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

For the next eleven months and twenty-six days, the racing industry will have to deal with Mr. Sanchez. God help the industry.

On that note, we bid goodbye to all our faithful readers. It is also time for us to go.

Angeles tops Caltex Delo challenge

ANGELES City 4Wheelers Club driver Edgar Quizon bested 49 others in the recently concluded Visayas selection of the Caltex Delo Rainforest Challenge held in Ormoc City.

Quizon clocked 7:24.31 minutes, beating by a scant 0.31 seconds Albert Montederamos of Trix Off Road who clocked 7:24.62 minutes.

"Edgar has the talent to succeed in this sport. He and his team worked hard for this victory and they deserve it," said Jean-Ernest Maningo, product manager of Delo diesel engine oil, the event sponsor.

Coming in third place was first leg winner Joel Gatchalian of the Ormoc 4Wheelers Club, followed by New Zealander Doug Hopkirk also of the Ormoc 4Wheelers Club and Joel Retuya of the Cebu Off Road Club.

Ormoc hosts National Motocross Series

THE NATIONAL Motocross Super Series 2001: A Race of Ormoc and PLDT will be held today with Shell-Yamaha and Caltex battling for top honors at the Ormoc Sports Complex.

Shell-Yamaha, led by Ernie Leongson and Carl Poculan, and Caltex, bannered by Glen Aguilar and Kenneth San Andres, are again expected to dominate most of the races organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp. and sponsored by Bench, Yamaha, WG&A Super Ferry, Smart Zed, Agua Vida, PLDT, Access Plus, Dreambikes and Transtainer Systems.

Knights move closer to FIBL cagefest title

THE KNIGHTS of coach Jing Ruiz moved a step closer to its first ever Filipino-Indian Basketball League (FIBL) crown when they took Game 1 over the Hoop It Up Kings, 80-70, in their best of three championship series recently at the Makati Coliseum.

In the first game, Avin Chulani and Rajesh Vaswani conspired to bring back a measure of respect for the dethroned Bombers as they led their team to an 83-76 victory over the Suns to cop third place.

The league was supported by Molten as official ball, Shroff International Travel Corp., David's Salon and Crystal Springs Mineral water, among others.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. El Duque 2. The Magician/Regimental Lass 3. Air Express 4. Mr. Lucas 5. Give and Take
Race 2—1. Friendly Lover 2. Sweet Annifer 3. Ever Green 4. Run for Cash
Race 3—1. American Music 2. Real Charm 3. Proud Conquistador 4. God Is Good 5. Iron Lady
Race 4—1. Make Your Mark 2. Tayp Ko Yan 3. Imperial Passion 4. Be Ready
Race 5—1. Family Task 2. Midnight Rose 3. Lyonnais 4. Free Bee 5. En Carta
Race 6—1. Lucky Gambit 2. Shuttle's Best 3. Inside Treasure 4. Fiesta 5. Tour de Force
Race 7—1. Sheer Courage 2. College Gem 3. October Sky
Race 8—1. Heart of Gold 2. Eagle Song 3. Choice for Change 4. Victorious Boy 5. Noble House
Race 9—1. Silver Gray 2. Gold Marlin 3. Barl Barl 4. Achilles Heels 5. Diamond Forever
Race 10—1. Gabriel's Pet 2. Spoiler 3. Snowy Market 4. Sham Sham 5. Fortunate
Race 11—1. High Pitch 2. Populist 3. Royal Diamond 4. Gold and Dollar 5. Free Time
Race 12—1. Virtual Reality 2. Down for Double 3. King Ram 4. Banahaw Blues 5. Rock's Dragon
Race 13—1. Battle Hero 2. Something Best 3. Prdie of Mandaue 4. Adrenalin/Golden Indy 5. Freshman/Baby My Beloved

Grill's billiards tomorrow

NATIONAL Sports Grill will host a Father & Son 8-Ball Billiards Tournament tomorrow in celebration of Father's Day. Any father and son team may join, provided the son is not younger than eight years old. A top prize of P5,000 awaits the winners. Call 752-5431-32 for other details.

SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor ▨ **Edwin M. Villanueva**, Assistant Editor

Clutario paces bowling

NATIONAL bowler Liza Clutario came up with four big games Thursday to assume the Class O ladies' singles lead in the Boysen-PBC Open 2001 championships at Green Valley lanes in Pasig City. Clutario rolled 903 on games of 211, 234, 210 and 248 for the lead in the kegfest sponsored by Boysen Paints and Philippine Sports Commission and supported by Goldilocks, Filkor, Prima Pasta, Bowlmart and Storm products.

Shark goes for equalizer against Welcoat

By Dennis U. Eroa

GAMES TODAY (Makati Coliseum)
2 p.m.—GIV vs Ana Freezers (for 3rd place)
4 p.m.—Welcoat vs Shark (championship)

Best-of-seven
Game One: Welcoat 58 Ana 57

UNLESS Shark learns to attack the zone fast, beating titleholder Welcoat Paints today is going to be doubly difficult in Game Two of the best-of-seven title showdown for the PBL Chairman's Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

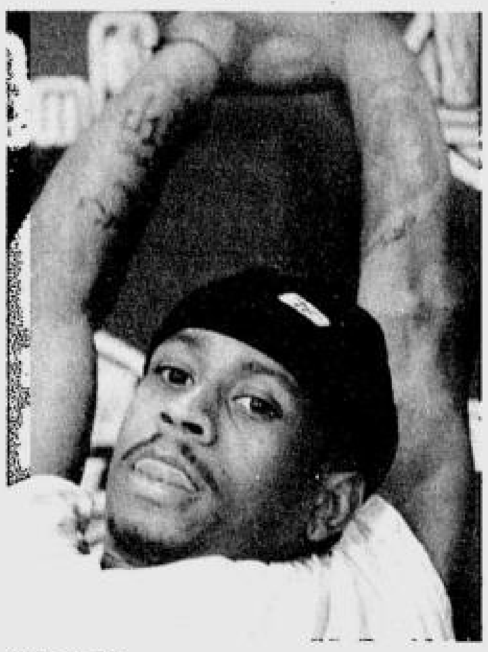
Gametime is set at 4 p.m., with the Paintmasters seeking their second straight win over the Power Boosters, whose bid for a back-to-back championship is also being jeopardized by the sophomoric plays of their starters.

"We didn't lose heart," said Welcoat mentor Junel Baculi after the Paintmasters, thanks to Ren Ren Ritualo's hot hands and a crippling zone defense, subdued the Power Boosters, 58-57, on Thursday.

Baculi failed to come to the usual post-game interview at the press room due to a severe case of gout on his toe.

Stratospheric Yancy de Ocampo and Derick Canlas anchored Welcoat's defense, which survived the occasional burst of brilliance from Shark reliever Ken Gumpenberger and veterans Jing Rodriguez and Rolly Basilides.

BRYANT



IVERSON

Lakers seek crown versus Sixers today

PHILADELPHIA—Kobe Bryant was dreaming of a dynasty, Shaquille O'Neal was pondering his legacy, Ron Harper and Horace Grant were making comparisons to the Chicago Bulls of the 1990s.

The Los Angeles Lakers were getting a little ahead of themselves Friday on the eve of Game 5, but with good reason.

There was a sense pervading the First Union Center that the NBA Finals are all but over. Even the Philadelphia 76ers seemed ready to succumb to the inevitable.

"What I'm starting to feel like now," Allen Iverson said, "is that the way to beat those guys is to really blow them out to have a chance. And the way things are going, that's just not going to happen."

The Lakers hold a 3-1 lead in the series and have a chance today to finish with a postseason record of 15-1, which would be the best in NBA history.

They also would become the first team ever to go through the playoffs undefeated on the road.

Although the task at hand is winning one more game, the Lakers allowed themselves to look at the bigger picture.

Bryant admitted that he goes to bed at night wondering whether this Lakers team could become a dynasty. Coach Phil Jackson discussed O'Neal's desire to leave a legacy as one of the game's best big men, and Harper and Grant—who each won three championships with Michael Jordan during the last decade—gave their unique takes on how history will judge this team.

"I think in terms of running through the Western Conference like we did and winning two on Philly's court, it puts us among the best teams ever," Grant said. "But in order for us to rank up there with those best Bulls teams, we have to win more than two championships."

The Sixers now have to win the final three games of the seven-game series, a feat no team has ever accomplished in the finals.

They are beaten up, mentally and physically, practically running on fumes.

"I have enough in my gas tank to keep going, but I don't know when it's going to run out," Iverson said. "Hopefully we'll win this game and I'll find out in LA."

Asked if he could remember the last time he lost three consecutive games, Jackson pondered the question for a moment and answered with a simple, "No."

For the record, the Lakers haven't lost three straight since Jackson took over as head coach two seasons ago, and a Jackson-coached team has not had a three-game losing streak since December 1994, during Jordan's first retirement.

The Lakers held a 3-1 lead over the Indiana Pacers last season but fell behind by 20 points at halftime and lost Game 5 by 33 points.

The Pacers, however, had more offensive weapons and were healthier than the 76ers, who have received little from anyone other than Iverson and Dikembe Mutombo.

Further decreasing their chances, the 76ers are facing a team that is 3-0 in elimination games this season. A year ago, Los Angeles was 4-6 in elimination games. *AP*

Purefoods routs Sta. Lucia

By Dennis U. Eroa

HARDWORKING David Wood routed Sta. Lucia Realty's big men as Purefoods Hotdogs joined the winner's circle with a lopsided 65-54 victory last night in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at the Philsports Arena in Pasig City.

The 36-year-old Wood ran circles around Marlou Aquino, Dennis Espino and out of sync Ansu Sesay, powering the Hotdogs to their first win after losing their first two games.

The Realtors absorbed their second straight loss after debuting with a 96-85 triumph over the Pop Cola Panthers last June 3.

Lacking highlight moves, the 6-foot-7 Wood, an NBA veteran, made up with his able positioning in the paint and excellent choice of shots as Purefoods controlled the game right from the opening period.

Wood finished with 25 points and grabbed 19 rebounds, two less than the total output of Aquino and company. He was ably supported by swingman Noy Castillo, whose three-point shot gave Purefoods its first sizeable lead, 38-23, eight minutes remaining in the third quarter.

The failure of coach Norman Black to utilize Paolo Mendoza also reduced Sta. Lucia's firepower.

In the second game, Red Bull pummeled Ginebra, 111-98 for its second win in three games. Ginebra dropped to 1-2.

Scores:

PUREFOODS 65—Wood 25, Castillo 11, Fernandez 9, Patrimonio 6, Evangelista 5, Yap 4, Feihl 3, Yee 2.

STA. LUCIA 54—Aquino 17, Sesay 15, Belano 7 Espino 6, Orquillas 6, David 2, Adriano 1, Tan 0, Del Rosario 0, Mendoza 0, Francisco 0, Ortiguerra 0.

Quarterscores: 12-12; 35-19; 50-38, 65-54.

Negros takes solo MBA lead

MBA FIRST PHASE

STANDINGS	W	L		W	L
Negros	4	0	Davao	0	2
FedEx Batangas	3	0	Nueva Ecija	0	2
Cebuana Lhuillier	3	1	FedEx Laguna	0	2
Andok's San Juan	2	2	Socsargen	0	3

GAMES TOMORROW *(Cebu City Coliseum)*
3:00 p.m.—San Juan vs Davao
5:30 p.m.—Batangas vs Cebu

By Roy Luarca

CEBU CITY—For the record, the final tally was 112 for the Negros Slashers and 99 for the Socsargen Marlins. But it was hardly reflective of how the game really went at the Cebu City Coliseum.

The Slashers took their fourth straight win and the solo lead in the Metropolitan Basketball Association First Phase only in the last two minutes, when the Marlins' firepower again fell short.

Just like in their first encounter which ended at 93-91, however, the Slashers found the pesky Marlins tough too crack.

Though the Slashers were able to pull away again, 61-40, before the first half ended, the Marlins, who dropped to the cellar at 0-3, never let-up and did threaten at 105-99, with 1 minute and 10 seconds left.

Two freethrows by Johnedel Cardel and a Blitz 3 by Dennis Madrid, however, pulled the Slashers to safe ground.

Intra-Conference champion Cebuana Lhuillier routed reigning national titlist Andok's San Juan, 137-105, in the foul-prone second game to improve its record to 3-1.

The Knights, who saw nine of their players leave the hardcourt due to fouls, fell to 2-2.

The Scores:

NEGROS 112—Ferriols 21, White 20, Dela Rosa 19, Bat-og 15, Vardel 13, Tierra 9, Madrid 5, Huelar 3, Benedicto 3, Hugnatan 2, Ignacio 2.

SOCSARGEN 99—Bade 28, Alvarez 19, De Jesus 17, Echaves 14, Santos 8, Reyes 5, Flores 4, Salvador 2, Natividad 2, Manalac 0, Teng 0, Pineda 0.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA at 8:30 a.m. (r – 8:30 p.m.) on ESPN. NBA Finals Game 5 at 9 a.m. (r – 9 p.m.) on ESPN

Asian Basketball Show at 11 a.m. on Star Sports

WNBA at 2:30 p.m. on ESPN

NBA Inside Stuff at 6:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

GOLF: Senior PGA - The Countrywide Tradition, Second Round at 1 p.m. on Star Sports

US Open, 2nd Round, Part I at 3 p.m. (r), Part II at 10:30 p.m. (r), Third Round tomorrow at 1:30 a.m. on ESPN

TRACK AND FIELD: Prefontaine Classic Highlights at 7:30 a.m. (r) on ESPN

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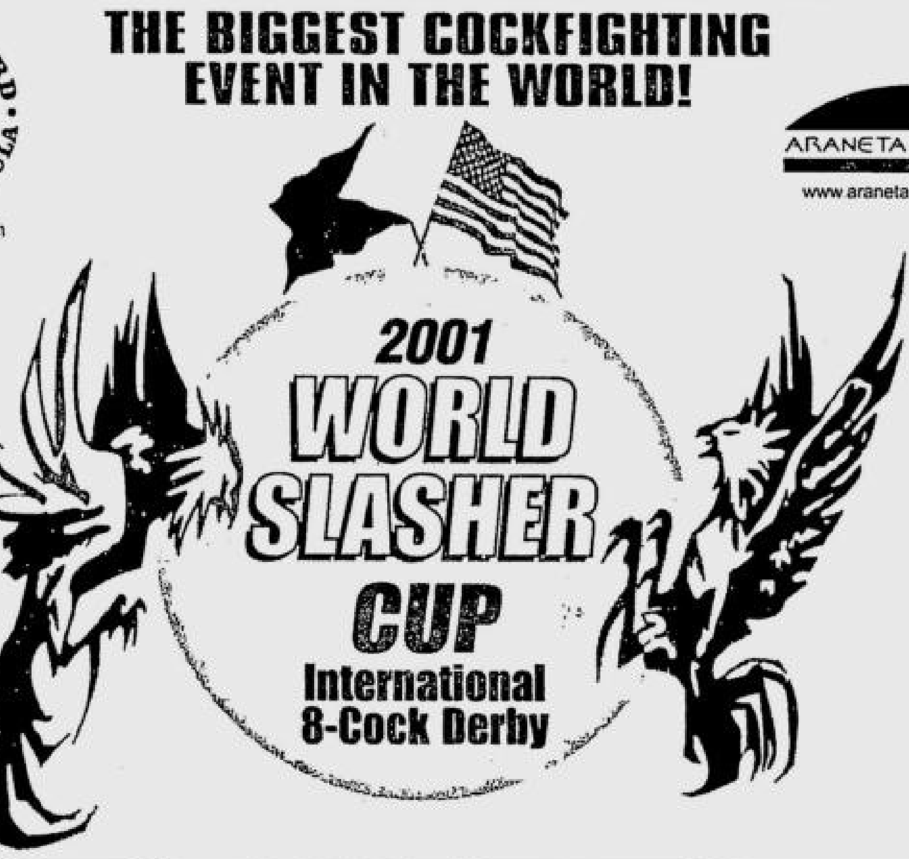

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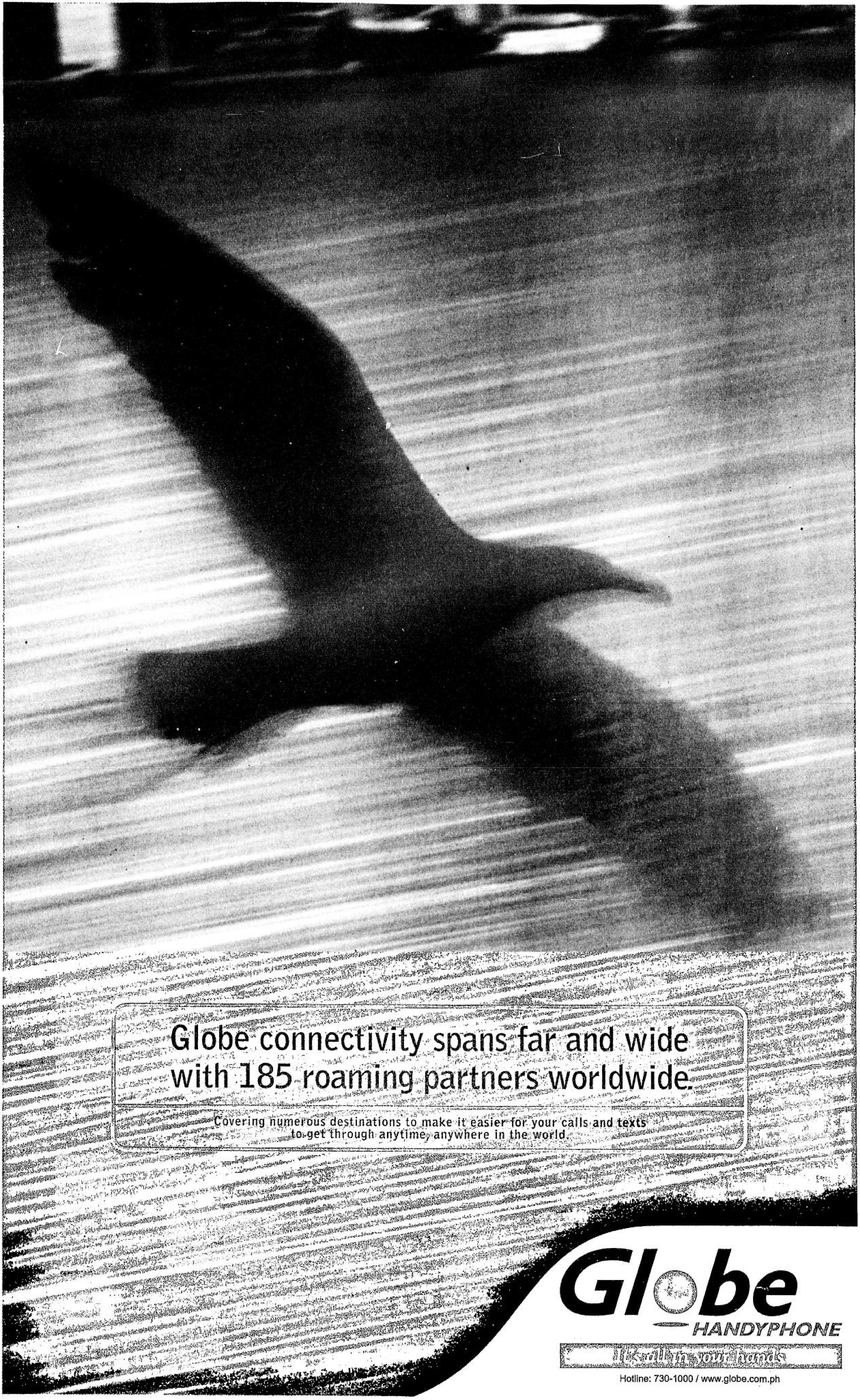
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- **Insomnia and the city** A21
- **Ex-governor faces probe for rape** A20

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

- **Principal heaps charges on teacher** A20

Cops brace for Caloocan violence

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

POLICE are bracing for the possible outbreak of violence in Caloocan City when the Commission on Elections next week releases its decision on a petition to declare an election failure in the city.

Supt. Benjardi Mantele, Caloocan Police chief, yesterday said he would deploy about 200 policemen to city hall to prevent a possible clash between supporters of Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo and his opponent, Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio.

Mantele said he would ask 100 more warm bodies from the Northern Police District to augment the 200 men "if the situation would call for it."

Police believe the Comelec will release its decision on Monday.

COPS/ A20

Proclamation of Gatchalian son questioned

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

EVEN IF he has been proclaimed Valenzuela City congressman, Sherwin Gatchalian is still hounded by calls for his disqualification to hold an elective post.

This time, a resident has questioned the nationality of the son of "plastics king" William Gatchalian, a known crony of jailed former President Estrada.

In a petition, Alfredo Rueda asked the House of Representatives to bar the young Gatchalian from representing the city.

Rueda said Gatchalian should not be allowed to hold office because, contrary to the requirement of the law, he is not a natural-born Filipino.

Rueda claimed that Gatchalian's parents "appeared to have been admitted in the Philippines without any documentary evidence to show that either is a Filipino citizen."

Rueda also asked the tribunal to disqualify the young Gatchalian for allegedly engaging in "massive illegal campaign propaganda" and "massive overspending" during the campaign.

Gatchalian said the petition was only meant to harass him and that "it would go nowhere."

Gatchalian defeated Magtanggol Gunigundo, former chair of the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

PROCLAMATION/ A20

Fleeing robbers shoot playwright

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

A PRIZE-WINNING playwright and writer for the popular children show "Batibot" and his friend were shot and injured by fleeing robbers in Quezon City Thursday night.

The suspects had earlier robbed a Caltex gas station and its customers on E. Rodriguez Boulevard, Quezon City, police said.

Playwright Rene Villanueva and his friend Cedric Lumindas refused to stop when the four unidentified suspects tried to flag down their car, said investigator PO2 William Aresta, of the Kamuning police station.

The robbers opened fire on Villanueva's silver gray Totoya Corolla (PHD-889) before they took the car, police said.

Villanueva was hit in the right cheek while Lumindas was shot in the stomach. Their two other companions were not hit, PO2 Aresta said.

FLEEING/ A20

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Principal heaps charges on teachers

By Christian V. Esguerra

TEACHERS smoked, took drugs, drank beer and even slept with their students.

Tala High School principal Lazaro Gervacio IV said he wanted to stop these alleged practices by his teachers, which is why they petitioned the education department for his transfer.

Lazaro said the teachers made the petition for fear that he would file charges against them.

"(The petition) is part of a desperate move to get rid of me and to preempt me from filing appropriate administrative and criminal charges for the various offenses of teachers," Gervacio said in a letter to Dr. Elizabeth Manalo, Caloocan's schools division superintendent.

Garvacio also accused the teachers of gross negligence of duty, gross insubordination, dishonesty, illegal collections from students, drug abuse, and sexual abuse of students.

But the teachers—about 70 of them and some suffering from leprosy—have made the petition against Gervacio for his alleged discrimination against those afflicted with the disease.

Gervacio, however, denied their allegations and said his statements were often misconstrued.

"I ate and drank with the teachers, sang along with them…shook hands with everybody including those with leprosy…drank coffee made by the patients," he said in the letter.

Edwin Labaclado, head of the school's faculty club, claimed that Gervacio "harassed" the teachers and that the school had "deplorable conditions" under him.

Gervacio countered that the teachers only wanted to conceal their "offenses." He said their allegations stemmed from their refusal to comply with his policies.

He said that under a strict monitoring system, he discovered that there were teachers who had romantic relationships with students.

Documents that Gervacio presented to the Inquirer showed that at least two teachers dated their students.

These teachers, he said, were among those who petitioned for his ouster.

The documents showed that one of these teachers taught Values Education and had a wife, but he often asked a 17-year-old student to sleep with him in his house on the pretext of doing a school activity.

In a letter, the teacher's wife blamed the girl for having a relationship with her husband.

This same teacher and another faculty member have also been using illegal drugs inside the school, according to official school reports.

Another document showed that one of the petitioners "doctored" students' grades for still unclear reasons.

Another petitioner allegedly refused to grade a fourth-year student in all four grading periods since the student allegedly lacked the "credentials" to be in school.

Gervacio said another teacher turned against him after the school refused to admit the teacher's godson, who wanted to transfer to Tala from Bagong Silang High School.

He said he got the ire of many teachers when he investigated them for allegedly making unauthorized collection of money from students.

Labaclado "has been collecting money from his students and asking projects for personal (use) such as video discs," Gervacio claimed.

Labaclado said the allegations were petty and were purely internal, and that Gervacio should have acted on them in his capacity as school principal.

Education Undersecretary Ramon Bacani has reportedly endorsed Gervacio's transfer to another school following the teachers' petition.

"My mind is telling me to transfer to another school… but my conscience is telling me to fight for what is right even if I lose my job," Gervacio said.

Ex-governor faces probe for rape

GOVERNMENT prosecutors have begun investigating reports that former Surigao del Sur governor Francisco Matugas tried to rape one of his secretaries during the early part of his term.

Pasay City prosecutor Elmer Mitra yesterday gave Matugas until June 22 to answer the attempted rape complaint filed by Naza Buan, 32. Mitra said he would decide on that date whether to elevate the case to a court of law.

In a two-page complaint, Buan claimed that Matugas tried to rape her in one of the suites of the Heritage Hotel along Epifanio de los Santos Avenue in Pasay City on the evening of July 22, 1995. He said Matugas went to her room and tried to kiss her but because of her background in martial arts, she was able to fend off the attack and escaped.

She said she tried to hide the incident for more than five years for fear that it would disgrace her family but she decided to file the case because she could no longer bear the humiliation.

Matugas did not attend yesterday's hearing in Mitra's office.

Nelson F. Flores

Driver nabbed for abusing daughter, 6

A TRICYCLE driver will be celebrating tomorrow's Father's Day in jail for allegedly molesting his 6-year-old daughter on several occasions in Caloocan City.

The driver, of Grace Park, Caloocan, was arrested Thursday after his daughter, a Grade 1 pupil, charged him with sexual abuse.

Investigation by the Caloocan Police Women's and Children's Concern Desk showed the driver abused his daughter at least four times.

Last Thursday, the girl's mother noticed pus on the girl's panties while the daughter was taking a bath, said PO2 Marissa Amajan.

During interrogation, the suspect denied he sexually abused his daughter. But he later told investigators that he could have molested her whenever he was high on drugs. *Christian V. Esguerra*

Cops . . .

(From page A19)

Mantele said he was informed that election officials are already deliberating on the merits of Asistio's petition to declare a failure of election in the city.

Asistio, through his campaign manager Pablo Casimina, accused Malonzo and other local officials of causing the chaos in the distribution of election materials on May 14. As a result, thousands of Caloocan residents were not able to vote.

In his petition, Asistio called for a special election.

Bishop Teodoro Bacani also called for a thorough investigation of the alleged disenfranchisement of Coloocan voters.

Bacani is the district bishop for northern Manila.

Aside from Malonzo, implicated in the petition was city treasurer Lourdes Jose who was in charge of the distribution of election materials.

Malonzo earlier claimed that Asistio's men were behind the disorderly distribution.

The petition, he said, was meant to delay his proclamation as mayor for a third and final term.

Proclamation . . .

(From page A19)

Rueda claimed in his petition that Gatchalian engaged in vote buying and spent P306,858 for voters in Valenzuela's first congressional district.

Gatchalian allegedly sponsored basketball tournaments and distributed cellular phones, bracelets, groceries, watches, and other materials apparently to bribe barangay officials, teachers and voters, Rueda said.

He also accused Gatchalian's family of violating the law by funding the construction of schools, barangay halls, daycare centers and churches during the election period.

Gatchalian said some of these projects were constructed even before the May 14 elections.

ERIK ARAZAS

PAINT PROTEST

A security guard ducks as members of Anakbayan throw paint bombs at the Shell building in Makati during a rally against the latest round of oil price increases. Makati police are on alert to prevent violence as more rallies are expected.

ROTC 'will stay'

By Jerome Aning

ABOLISHING the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) would weaken the Armed Forces of the Philippines, according to the overseer of ROTC activities in Metro Manila.

Col. Freddie Maglaya said this on Thursday after he attended simple rights honoring slain engineering student Mark Chua for his courage in exposing alleged ROTC anomalies in the University of Sto. Tomas.

Despite appeals from numerous colleges and student groups for the abolition of the ROTC, Maglaya said the ROTC, as an institution, "will stay and continue doing what it had been doing all these years."

"To abolish the ROTC, which is the bastion of national defense, is to weaken the AFP," said the Philippine Army official who, as group commander of the Defense Department's Regional Community Defense Group in the National Capital Region, supervises all ROTC activities.

Maglaya said the ROTC is still very relevant because the bulk of the country's reserve commands would come from its graduates.

He said the ROTC is the source of reserve troops in times of conflict or national emergency, and of community servants during peacetime.

He said several laws would have to be abrogated by Congress since the ROTC Military Science subject is mandatory for all male college students, in the same way that university students have to take courses in taxation and Rizal.

He said taking up ROTC should be seen as an expression of love of country.

As an institution, the ROTC "has served the country well," Maglaya said.

Many ROTC officers and cadets joined the US Armed Forces in the Far East at the outbreak of World War II and formed guerilla units during the Japanese occupation.

ROTC units were also used against Hukbalahap rebels in Central Luzon in '50s and against Muslim secessionists in Mindanao in the early '70s. They were also sent to help the government in rescue and relief operations during man-made and natural disasters.

ROTC units have also been utilized for community service and other civic duties in many areas of the country.

ROTC cadets are the biggest blood donors for the Philippine National Red Cross, Maglaya noted.

The clamor for the abolition of the ROTC grew louder and became more widespread after Mark Chua's death in March.

Chua, 19, a former ROTC cadet, filed a complaint against several UST-ROTC officers for corruption and extortion. He began to receive death threats after that.

The officers were sacked but Chua went missing on March 19. His body was later found floating in the Pasig River.

Authorities have filed charges against the ROTC officers and have arrested two of the suspects.

In a separate interview, Chua's father Welson said that instead of abolishing the ROTC, he wants it reformed. He said he believes that his son "wanted to restore the integrity of the institution."

"We haven't even done anything yet to reform it, so why don't we make a concerted effort to reform it first, and then when reform is not possible, then let's abolish it," he told the Inquirer.

He said he does not think that ROTC should be optional.

"National defense is everybody's business," he said. "If you make it optional, no youth would really go to the ROTC. (Making ROTC) optional won't be good for the country."

He added: "Remember that Mark's struggle was not against the institution but against the scalawags and the misfits who managed and prostituted the institution," he said. "My son said no to them and he paid the price to wake us up."

Mother's heartbreak: Son slain for snatching phone

HOUSEWIFE Teresita Pateno's heart broke on Thursday.

Her son Patrick V. Pateno, 18, came home with a gunshot wound and died later in the hospital. Worse, she found out that he was shot after he robbed a student of his cellular phone.

Patrick, of E. Rodriguez Sr. Boulevard in Barangay Immaculate Concepcion, Cubao, Quezon City, died after he allegedly robbed student Joemar L. Lira, 23, of Ivory Street, Barangay Rizal, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City, said Senior Insp. Rudy Jaraza, Central Police District's Criminal Investigation Unit-homicide section chief.

Patrick allegedly took Lira's Nokia 3210 but an unidentified man shot him as he was escaping, police said.

Lira was on board a jeep when Patrick, allegedly armed with a fan knife, announced the holdup in Cubao Thursday after midnight, Jaraza said.

Patrick allegedly grabbed Lira's cellular phone and got off the jeep. But as he was running away, the unidentified gunman shot him.

Patrick was hit but he was still able to get home, Jaraza said. His mother brought him to the East Avenue Medical Center where he was declared dead about 2 a.m.

Lira positively identified Patrick as the robber while the doctors were trying to save the wounded young man in the operating room.

Lira was not able to get back his cellular phone, police said.

Philip C. Tubeza

Fleeing robbers . . . (From page A19)

Yesterday, Villanueva's Toyota was found abandoned on New York Street in Cubao.

The suspects also took about P84,000 from the gas station and P22,000 in cash and jewelry from its customers, Aresta said.

Witnesses described the suspects as 25 to 30 years old, wearing white T-shirts and denim pants, and were armed with handguns of unknown caliber, police said.

At 7:20 p.m., the robbers hit the Caltex gas station at the corner of E. Rodriguez Boulevard and Ilang-ilang Street in Barangay Immaculate Concepcion, police said.

Three of the suspects went into the gas station and announced the holdup while another acted as lookout, Aresta said.

After the robbery, the suspects fled toward Valley Road where they came upon Villanueva's car.

Villanueva and Lumindas were taken to St. Luke's Hospital. About 7 a.m. yesterday, Dr. Legazpi Yap told police that the victims underwent surgery and were recuperating.

The Marines mystique unraveled

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

NOW that President GMA has taken the advice to use the Marines in Basilan, expect results in the next couple of days.

The task of fighting a very elusive prey like the Abus should not be left to the Army alone. It should be an undertaking by a composite group—Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

***

The Marines know the Abu **Sayyaf more than their Army comrades do.**

The "dogs of war" were assigned to Basilan for many years. They combed the island province from end to end. They are familiar with the character of the people.

The Marines were relieved of their Basilan assignment and were sent to other troubled areas in Mindanao. The Army replaced them.

***

A Marine battalion recently landed in Basilan to augment the Army forces. A battalion has 500 soldiers, more or less.

Another Marine battalion is expected in the island soon.

In the next few days we'll see if the Marines have not lost their touch in Basilan.

***

Why do I endorse the Marines with seeming fanaticism?

Because the Philippine Marine Corps, like its US counterpart, is the most disciplined unit in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Marines are known for their discipline and high morale. Discipline in the Marine Corps is a result of its being a small unit. And because there are only a few members, almost everybody knows everybody else. Morale runs high in a military unit where everybody treats each other like a blood brother.

High morale and discipline within the corps make it a terrific fighting group. Peace-loving citizens would not like the Marines who boast that the reason for their existence is combat. "First to fight" is one of the mottoes of the Marines. That's why Marines are called "dogs of war."

***

Discipline within the Marines extends over to their treatment of civilians. Even during the unlamented Marcos regime, when many soldiers abused civilians, people loved the Marines in areas where they were assigned.

When the Marines left Bicol for assignment elsewhere, some barrio folk reportedly cried because they had lost friends. The same barrio folk hated Army and PC soldiers who shot their chickens and pigs for food without paying for them. The Marines paid for whatever food they got from the poor farmers.

In Davao, where Marines were assigned at the height of the anti-insurgency campaign, the barrio folk became the eyes and ears of the Marines against the New People's Army (NPA). They didn't do this with Army and PC soldiers. The result was that the NPAs avoided areas where Marines operated.

***

The Abu Sayyaf is an example of why the citizenry cannot trust the military to defend the country against foreign invaders.

If a ragtag band of uneducated Moros can run circles around the supposedly well-organized and highly trained military, what can you expect from our soldiers when they fight invaders?

It's better to decrease the strength of our Armed Forces and maintain a citizen's army that can be called on during an emergency.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines is useless. We spend so much money on it.

***

For all the bad things they say about the late Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, he was an honest official. He never stole money from government coffers.

Aguinaldo lived a poor man's life. I remember visiting him at the governor's mansion when he was still the chief executive of Cagayan years ago. His mansion had spartan furniture. He dressed like a peasant and went around in slippers.

In the many years that he was governor, he wasn't able to build a house. At the time of his death, he was only renting an apartment.

***

The election of former Philippine National Police chief Panfilo Lacson to the Senate does not extinguish whatever crimes he has committed when he was still in the service.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez says the government will continue to pursue the cases the government might have against Lacson.

Lacson is suspected of being involved in the abduction and murder of publicist Bubby Dacer. All those who confessed participation in Dacer's abduction and murder were Lacson's men in the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF).

The Senate, and the House of Representatives for that matter, should not be a refuge of scoundrels.

Robber killed in shootout

A SUSPECTED robber was shot dead in an alleged shootout with Marikina City policemen Thursday while five of his companions were arrested later.

Police said at least 50 complainants yesterday went to the Marikina City police headquarters and positively identified the suspects as being behind the jeepney robbery cases not only in the city but also in neighboring towns and cities.

Chief Supt. George Aliño, Eastern Police District director, identified the slain robber as Roberto Barredo, of Tumana, Barangay Concepcion, Marikina.

Arrested were Robert Cariño, 30; Michael Garcia, 27, and Jojo Muza, Cesar Dumundun, 40, all neighbors of Barredo; and August Dayrit, 20, of Barangay Modesta, San Mateo, Rizal.

Investigation showed that the robbery occurred Thursday night. The men boarded a passenger jeep at the Araneta Center in Cubao, Quezon City at 9:45 p.m.

One of the passengers, Jennalyn Rustia, 27, of Tayuman, Binangonan, Rizal, said one of the suspects ordered the unidentified driver to pull over on Marcos Highway in Barangay Barangka.

Another suspect, who was armed with a caliber. 38 revolver, approached the driver and announced the heist. The robbers started divesting passengers of their bags, wallets, mobile phones, cash and other valuables.

But the driver pressed the vehicle's horn, attracting the attention of policemen deployed in the area.

A brief chase ensued, during which Barredo was cornered near a slum. Instead of surrendering, the suspect chose to shoot it out. He got hit twice in the abdomen.

He yielded a caliber. 38 revolver with five spent shells.

Garcia and Dayrit were turned over to the police by village security men and bystanders who caught and allegedly beat up the two suspects. Confiscated from them were two knives.

In a follow-up operation at about 4 a.m. yesterday, Cariño and Dumundum were found hiding in an abandoned house near the encounter site. They gave up peacefully and later led policemen to Barangay Concepcion where Muza was arrested at 1:10 p.m.

Police said they found on the suspects two caliber .38 revolvers, four knives and about P50,000.

Richard Conosido, of Cainta Rizal, one of the alleged victims who showed up at the police station yesterday, said the suspects were the same men who held up the passenger jeepney he was riding on on June 13.

The five suspects are now detained at the Marikina City police detention center.

Insomnia and the City

By Mario Cornejo

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY, complete with casinos, car wash joints, supermarkets and other conveniences.

PHOTOS BY CORINNE DE SAN JOSE

IT HAPPENS sooner or later to every true insomniac. The day comes when you've read all the John Grisham you can stomach, and you long for a useful life beyond television and the Internet.

But what is there to do?

For a city that reputedly never sleeps, Manila is awfully dead after midnight. Though you can get something to eat and you sure as heck can find somewhere to drink, there's really not much else available that has nothing to do with ingestion or inebriation.

So in the name of night people everywhere, I set out looking for activities that let you make the use of those lonely hours. My only criterion was not to go anywhere that might get raided.

Northern lights

Having heard rumors of a 24-hour supermarket chain in the northern parts of Metro Manila, I surged forth into the wilderness that is Quezon City. My incredibly bad sense of direction combined with my keen survival instincts usually conspire to keep me from going any further than Ortigas Avenue. Places with such arcane nomenclatures as Sikatuna and Caloocan may as well be Katmandu or Morocco.

Armed only with vague and outdated directions, I finally found an open Glori's Supermarket on a street called Anonas, which I found terribly amusing for some reason. And the supermarket was indeed open even though midnight had long since passed.

Though the outside looked a bit rundown, I wasn't about to complain. After all, I had given up hope of finding it some time ago, and only non-stop texting and countless gas station attendants saved this sorry excursion. In the words of countless Oscar losers, I was happy just to be there.

Searching for 'sinigang'

As I entered this dingy Mecca, my first instinct was to find out who else was shopping at this ungodly hour. While most of the motley bunch seemed as aimless as I was, there was actually a young couple with their toddler wandering the aisles. I felt like screaming at them, *Take him home and put him to bed! Don't let him grow up to be one of us!*

After snapping out of that fantasy, I restrained myself and simply glared at them as I passed them in Aisle 4, Canned Goods.

But back to the task at hand. Since I really didn't need anything and in fact didn't want to spend a cent, I just imagined that I was shopping for ingredients for *sinigang na baboy*. Would Glori's Supermarket be up to the challenge?

I have never cooked *sinigang* myself, but I had a good idea of what went into this most revered of dishes. I walked through the produce section and one by one the ingredients presented themselves like cadets to an inspecting commandant.

There was the *sitaw*, tall and true. The *kangkong*, *kamatis* and *sibuyas*, all present and accounted for. The okra would have saluted if it had arms. There was even *gabi* and real *sampalok*. And in the meat section, a lonely package of pork sat bleeding. I'm not sure if it was the right cut, but something in its manner told me that somehow it would do the job asked of it.

Success. Though I didn't buy any of the items myself, a sleep-impaired chef with a craving for sour meat would find what he needed at Glori's. I did end up buying a few bags of an orange colored junk food item called Munchees for my nostalgic photographer, who remembered them from childhood and whose eyes glazed over when she saw the packaging.

Glori's may be open all hours and fairly complete, but still leaves much to be desired. There were cockroaches on some of the vegetables, and they turned off the refrigeration of the dairy products at some point, as well as the air conditioning.

And there was a general air of being unclean. Maybe being open all the time means they never close down and really scrub. But then again, I was happy just to be there.

Automotive hygiene

Admit it, your car needs a wash, wax and engine wash. This is one of those errands that somehow you keep putting off for as long as possible. And one day you find you've procrastinated till 3 a.m. Not to fear, help is available.

You can find a 24-hour car wash emporium on Zobel Roxas, Manila, near the rails of the Metro Train. Well, perhaps emporium is a slight exaggeration, but there are a number of establishments competing for your business. All you have to do is drive by slowly close to them and the hawkers will come flocking.

Their aggressive marketing strategy was a little intimidating to me, much like those Family First people in the mall. But fighting my panic, I managed to settle on a friendly looking guy named Ray, who quoted me what I thought was a fair enough price. Besides, his store had the nicest and brightest waiting area, with a television showing a Rudy Fernandez movie.

And he definitely earned his money. First, he gave the car a quick soaping and rinsing with a high-pressure hose. No problem so far. Then he set to work on the engine wash, which was long overdue. As a result, the grime had set in deep, and he really had to scrub hard to get it off. He didn't complain, but it took him a long time.

When he started, Daboy had just lost his girlfriend on TV. By the time he'd gotten most of the filth off, Rudy was confronting his nemesis with a .45, shouting clever insults with his back against a wall.

In the meantime, Ray's sleepy and unnamed partner (let's call him Bong) was cleaning the interiors with a brush and dustpan, and doing a pretty thorough job of it. Finally, they both got to work applying a coat of wax and giving it a quick buffing.

ALL NIGHT LONG. 24-hour carwash on Zobel Roxas in Manila, with a nice waiting area.

I don't know if I got special treatment, or if they do as good a job even if you don't have a professional photographer along with you. I do know that my car looked great afterward, and for just P270, and that includes the price of the wax.

So if you're in the area, look for Ray and tell him I sent you. But leave a tip, you cheapskate.

Who wants to be a millionaire?

Maybe you harbor some fantasy of winning a million bucks at the slot machines or blackjack table. Well, let me be the first to burst that bubble. It's not gonna happen. But

INSOMNIA/ A22

> I dream of a 24-hour mall, complete with a moviehouse and a bookstore. Where we creatures of the night can converge and compare notes on telenovela episodes.

Gas station rob suspect nabbed

By Jerome Aning

ONE of three suspects in the robbery of a Pasig City gasoline station and the killing of its owner last month has been arrested in Cavite, the National Bureau of Investigation said yesterday.

NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said agents of the bureau's Special Action Unit arrested on June 7 Faustino Gerona, alias "Noel," 39, a house painter and resident of San Jose, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Cavite.

Gerona, presented to media people yesterday, was positively identified by witnesses in a police lineup, Wycoco said.

On May 28, Gerona and two other men on board a motorcycle reportedly held up a Shell gas station on Marcos Highway in Santolan, Pasig, police said.

The owner, Virgilio Bordeos Sr., was in his office entertaining a phone call when the robbers struck.

As the suspects herded Bordeos' sons John Mark and Virgilio Jr. to the office, Gerona reportedly fired a warning shot which prompted the elder Bordeos to check.

On seeing Bordeos, one of the robbers shot him in the head, killing him on the spot.

Gerona reportedly took the victim's attaché case that contained important papers and a .38-cal. revolver, police said.

The suspects were not able to get any money.

On May 31, John Mark went to the NBI to seek assistance, and a team was formed to track down the suspects.

Gerona was charged with robbery with homicide before the Pasig prosecutor's office.

Wycoco vowed to hunt down the other suspects.

What Life Might Have Been
If Jack Had Chosen Love Instead Of Fame & Fortune
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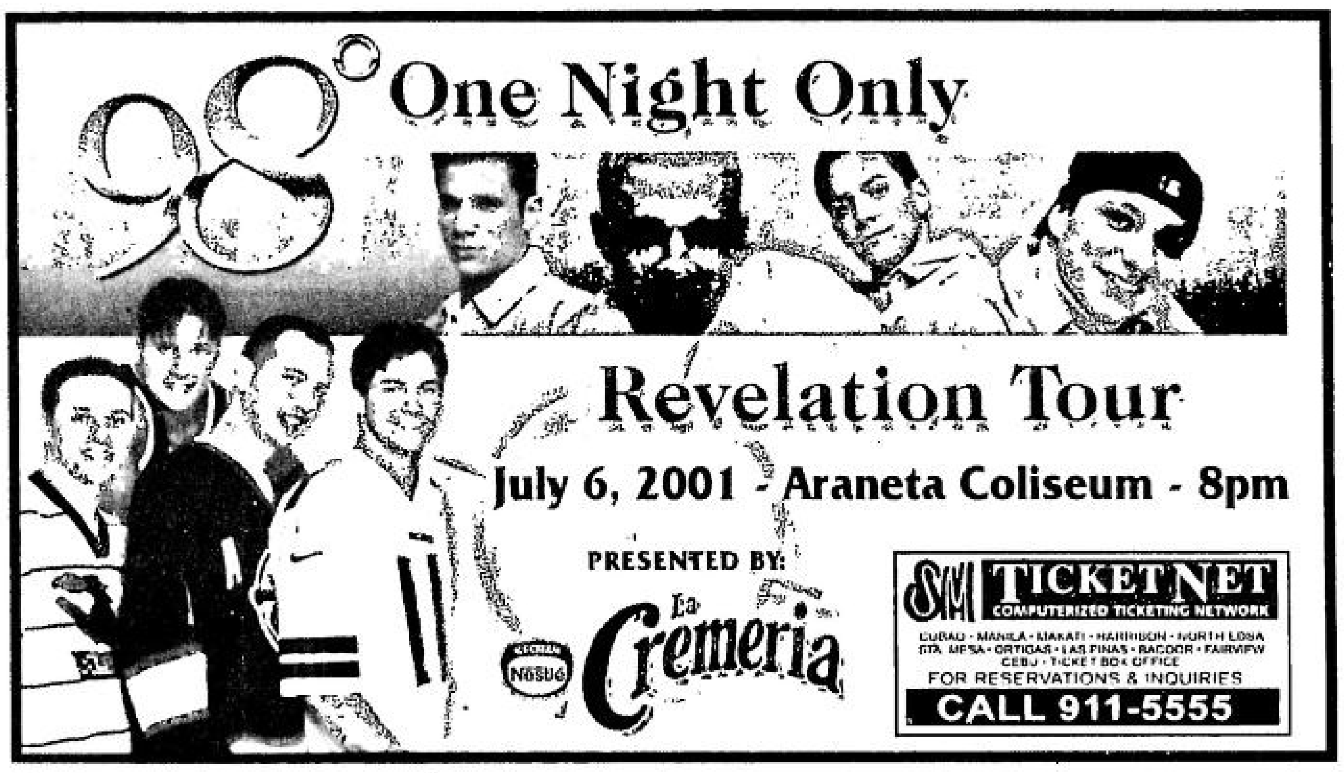

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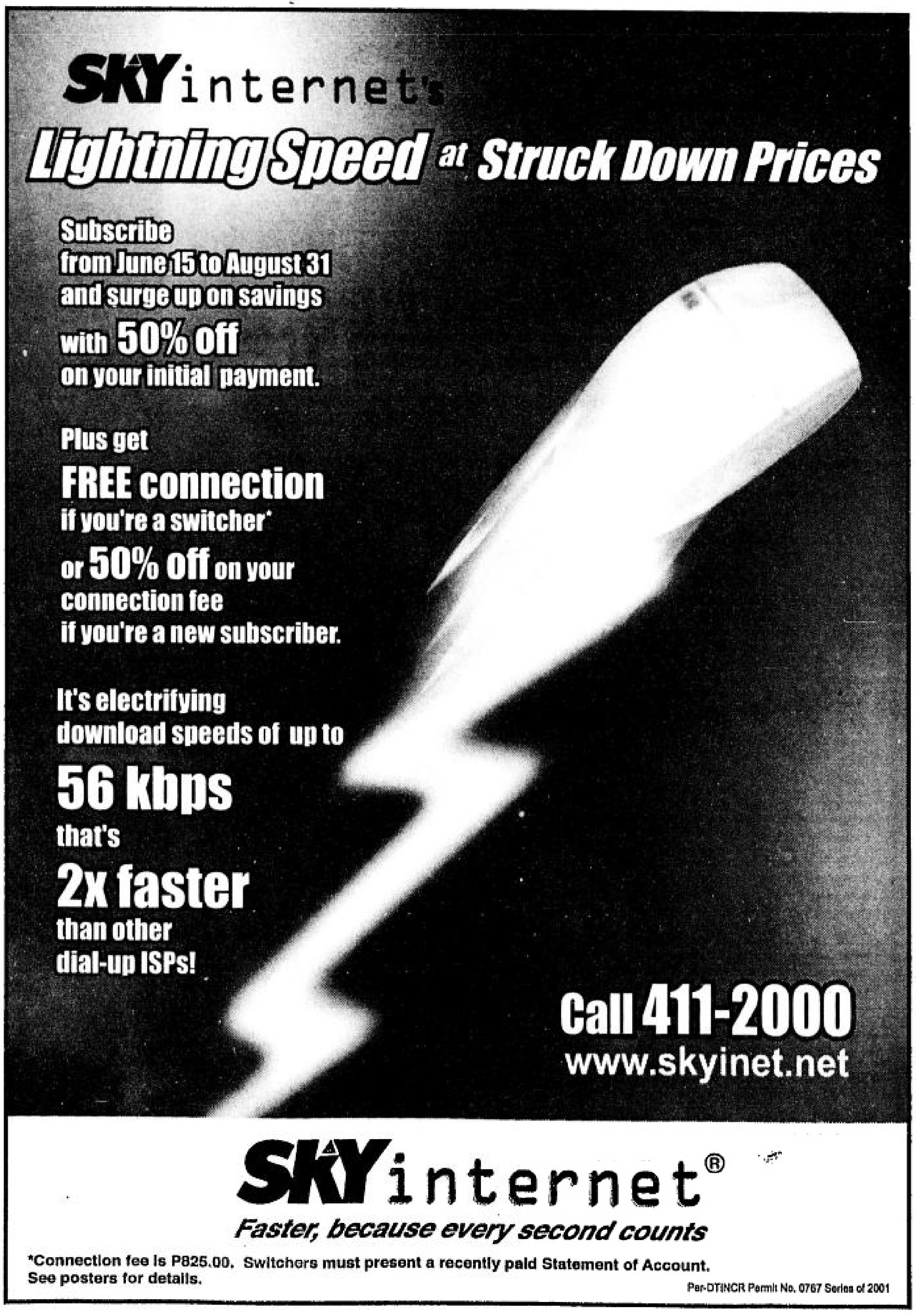

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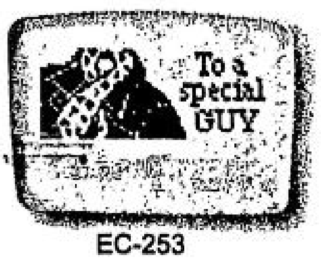
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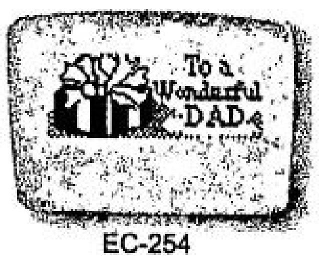
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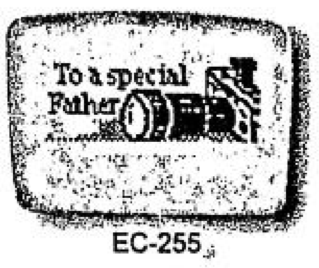
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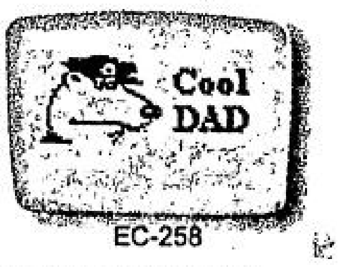
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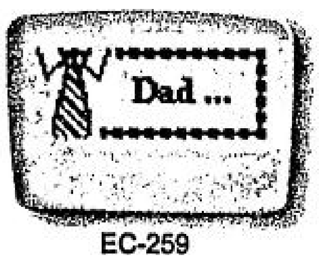
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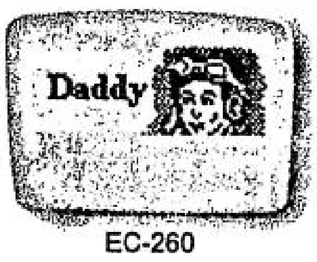
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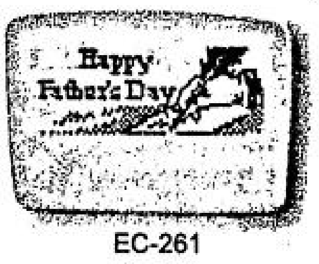
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Ringtones

NAME	ARTIST	KEYWORDS
Duel Of The Fates	Star Wars Episode I	EPISODE1
Godfather Theme	N. Rota	GODFATHER
Addams Family Theme	Mike Post/Pete Carpenter	ADDAMS
Rocky Theme	Carol Connors/William Conti	ROCKY
Unbelievable	EMF-DENCH/Aatkin/Foley/Decleol/Brownson	UNBELIV
Day O (Banana Boat Song)	Harry Belafonte	DAYO
Hawaii Five-O	Ventures	HAWAII
Flintstones (TV Cue)	TV Cue	FLINTSTO
Jeopardy Theme	Merv Griffin	JEPRDY
Simpsons Theme	Danny Elfman	SIMPSONS
Billie Jean	Michael Jackson	BILLIEJ
Light My Fire	The Doors	MAFIRE
All Star	Smashmouth/Gregory Camp	ALLSTAR
Fiddler On The Roof	Harnick/Bock	FIDDLER
"Summer Nights from the movie "Grease"	Olivia Newton John/John Travolta	GREASE
Tequila	The Champs	TEQUILA

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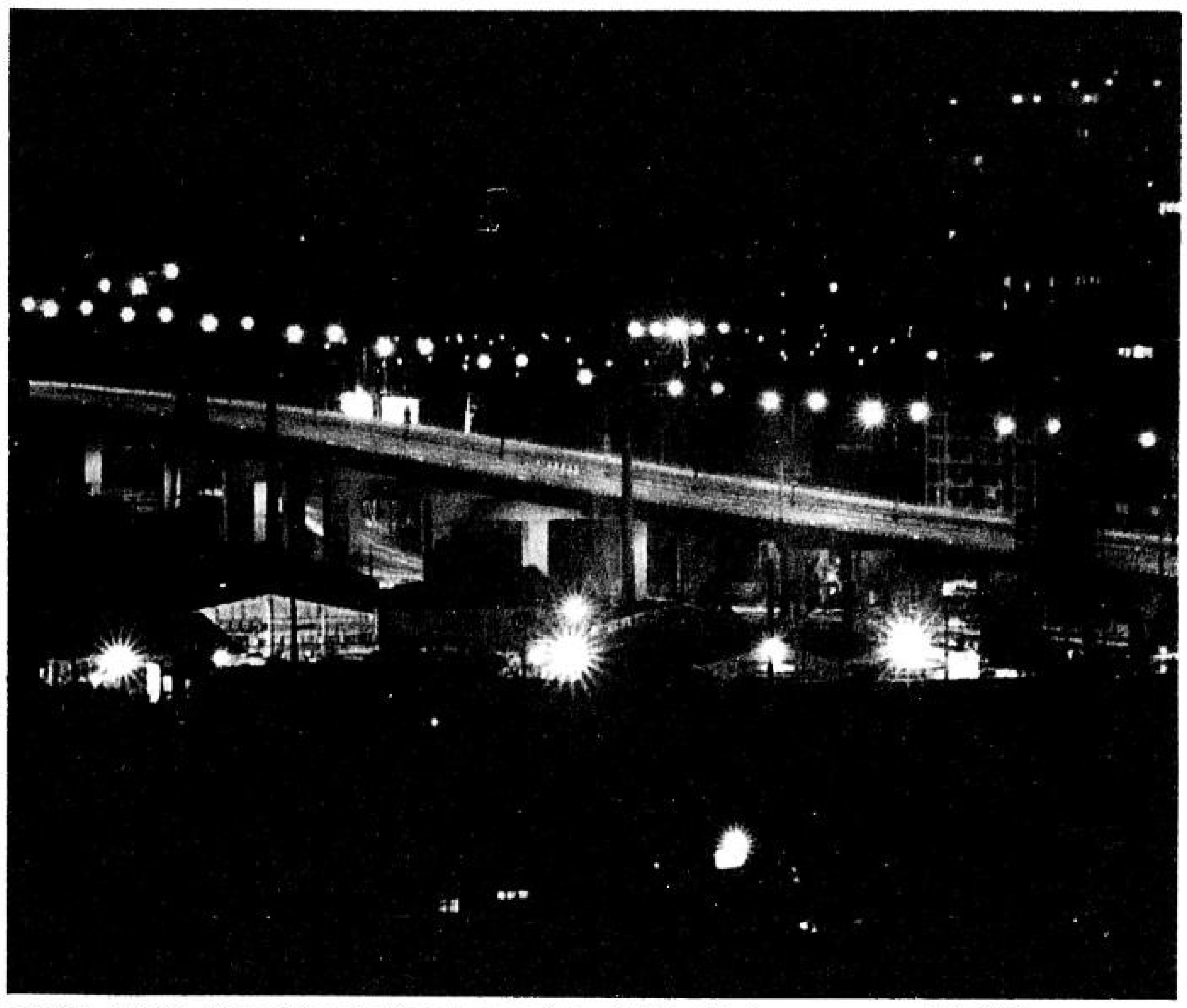
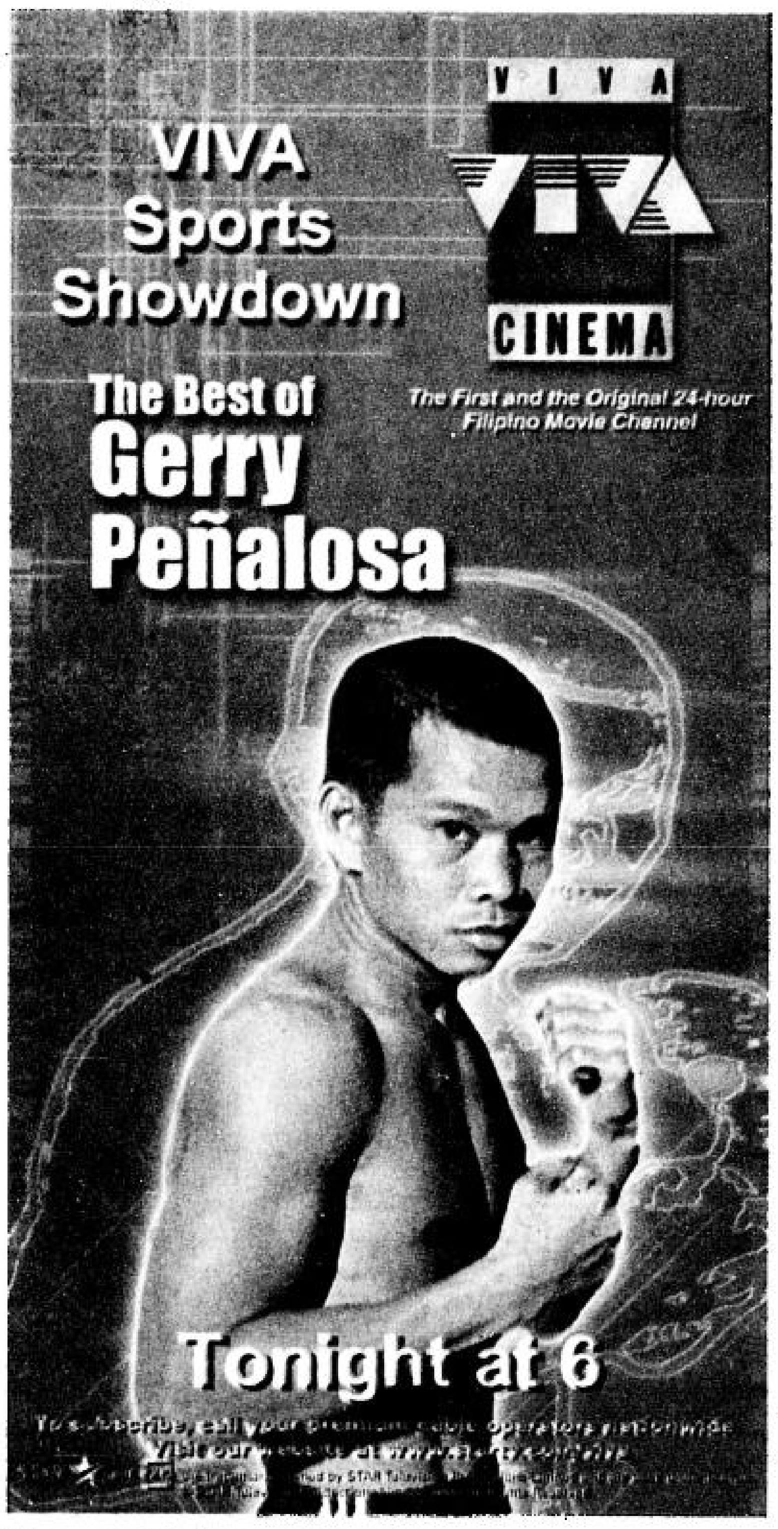

MANILA at night. Rule No. 1 is don't go anywhere that might be raided.


VIVA Sports Showdown
VIVA CINEMA
The First and the Original 24-hour Filipino Movie Channel
The Best of Gerry Peñalosa
Tonight at 6

Insomnia and the City

(From page A21)

if you happen to have some money to burn, you could conceivably spend your twilight hours at a casino. They're always open, and always ready to take your cash.

The one I went to has a dress code, and you have to pay P100 to get in. I looked for a blackjack table, which is the only game I really understand. The smallest bet allowed is P200. Since I only allowed myself a total of P500, including entrance fee, this only left enough for two hands, which I quickly lost.

There wasn't even enough time to get excited. There was just this weird, empty feeling. Where once there was money, now there was nothing. It's difficult to describe.

The other players looked at me strangely as I failed to put a bet on the next hand, probably wondering if I could possibly have been so stupid as to come in and sit down with so little money. I slunk away nonchalantly, if you can imagine that, trying not to feel like one big loser.

Anti-vampire

Since you're up anyway, why not donate some blood?

No, seriously.

The Makati Medical Center has a 24-hour blood bank, and there's always someone who can use your blood. It's the ultimate good deed, costs nothing, and you just might save a life.

Just walk in anytime and they'll test your blood for you. Come back 30 minutes later and they can let you know if you're a suitable donor.

According to Dondon, a friendly medical technician at the blood bank, there are just a few simple requirements. You have to be at least 50 kilos, be reasonably healthy with no history of hepatitis or other diseases, and no history of drug abuse. You have to fast for two hours before the actual bleeding, but aside from that it's no inconvenience whatsoever. In fact, it's supposed to be good for you, as it allows your body to generate fresh new blood cells.

Having donated myself a number of times, I can honestly say it's a pretty painless procedure. Just don't look at the needle and you should be fine. Ten minutes and it's over. Some places you even get a free snack afterward.

Maybe not every night owl's idea of a good time, but aren't you sick of feeling like a vampire? Here's your chance to be the exact moral and biological opposite.

Calling the sleepless

I'm tired of hanging out in seedy restaurants in the early mornings, the only other patrons being dancers and GROs having breakfast on their way home. I feel discriminated against just because I happen to be one of the countless who thrive at night.

I dream of a 24- hour mall, complete with a moviehouse and a bookstore. Where we creatures of the night can converge and compare notes on Clarissa episodes. At the very least, perhaps a Pinoy Insomniacs mailing group and website, where Sleepless in Sucat can find Awake in Alabang.

Anyone of you night owls with the means and know-how to set this up, please do so. I know you have the free time.

(contact the author at mariocornejo-99@yahoo.com)

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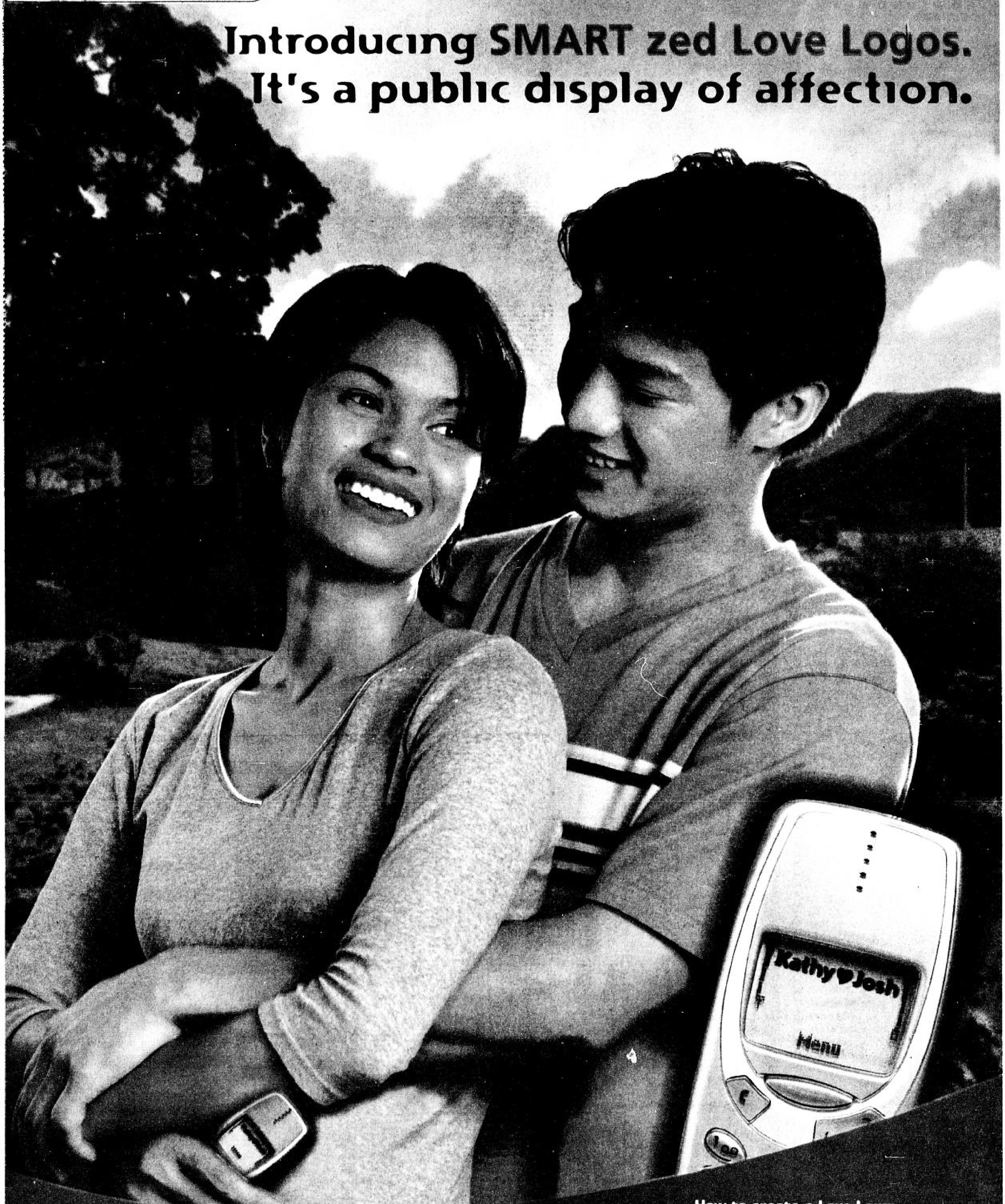
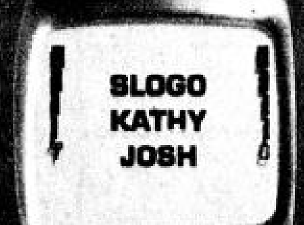
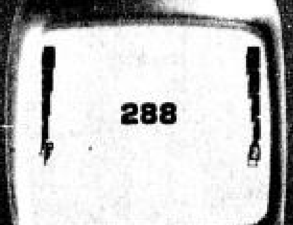


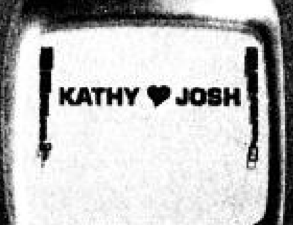
How to create a Love Logo:



Type in keyword and words you wish to use.
Ex. SLOGO KATHY JOSH



Send to 288.



Save upon receiving operator logo.

Calling all couples! Wanna let your feelings for your honey be known? Then grab a SMART zed Love Logo today. It's an operator logo with your name, the name of your Significant Other, and a heart in between. And soon we'll be coming up with other fun symbols too. Plus it's so easy to download for just ₱12.00! So don't just wear your heart on your sleeve. Wear it on your celfone with a SMART zed Love logo.

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1	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS
2	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	THE REPLICANT
4	DOLBY SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	PEARL HARBOR
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
7	DOLBY SURROUND	GET OVER IT
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SPOT

SM CENTERPOINT 7140622 • 7161416

1	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
2	DOLBY SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
3	DTS	THE MUMMY RETURNS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	PEARL HARBOR
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ANTS IN THE PANTS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
8	DOLBY SURROUND	GET OVER IT
9	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SPOT

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

1	DOLBY SURROUND	ANGEL EYES
2	DOLBY SURROUND	MAGENTA
3	DOLBY SURROUND	GET OVER IT
4	DOLBY DIGITAL	PEARL HARBOR
5	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	PEARL HARBOR
8	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS
9	DOLBY SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
10	DOLBY SURROUND	ANTS IN THE PANTS
11	DOLBY SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
12	DOLBY SURROUND	SPOT

SM CITY MANILA 5239240

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	PEARL HARBOR
2	DOLBY DIGITAL	HEAD OVER HEELS
3	DOLBY SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
4	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	GET OVER IT
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	PEARL HARBOR
7	DOLBY SURROUND	SPOT
8	DOLBY SURROUND	ANGEL EYES
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
10	DOLBY SURROUND	MAGENTA
11	DOLBY SURROUND	VALENTINE
12	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR 8820950

1	ULTRA SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR

SM MEGAMALL 6331901 • 6329401

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4	DTS	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
10	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SPOT

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
2	DOLBY SURROUND	GET OVER IT
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SPOT
4	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
5	DOLBY SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
7	DTS	THE MUMMY RETURNS
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	PEARL HARBOR
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	MAGENTA
10	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TRAFFIC
12	DOLBY SURROUND	ANTS IN THE PANTS

SM SOUTHMALL 8064868 • 8060762

1	ULTRA SURROUND	GET OVER IT
2	ULTRA SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	PEARL HARBOR
4	ULTRA SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
5	ULTRA SURROUND	ANTS IN THE PANTS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	ALAS DOSE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE REPLICANT
9	ULTRA SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
10	ULTRA SURROUND	SPOT

TUTUBAN CENTER 2514302

1	ULTRA SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE REPLICANT
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	MAGENTA

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
2	ULTRA SURROUND	VALENTINE
3	ULTRA SURROUND	HEAD OVER HEELS
4	ULTRA SURROUND	15 MINUTES
5	ULTRA SURROUND	ANTS IN THE PANTS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	ALAS DOSE
7	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS

SM ILOILO 3209422

1	ULTRA SURROUND	SOMEONE LIKE YOU
2	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
3	ULTRA SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURNS
4	ULTRA SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
5	ULTRA SURROUND	TRAFFIC
6	ULTRA SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
7	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
8	ULTRA SURROUND	CARTA ALAS

SM PAMPANGA 7128016

1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	PEARL HARBOR
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE MUMMY RETURNS
3	DOLBY SURROUND	PEARL HARBOR
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ANGEL EYES
6	DOLBY SURROUND	BUHAY KAMAO

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1	HEAD OVER HEELS	
2	PEARL HARBOR	
3	THE REPLICANT	
4	BUHAY KAMAO	

GLORIETTA 4
All Digital Sounds

1	PEARL HARBOR	in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	THE REPLICANT	in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	PEARL HARBOR THX	in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	GET OVER IT	in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	SPOT	in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	HEAD OVER HEELS	in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	THE MUMMY RETURNS	in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

Art Film

GREENBELT

1	THE REPLICANT	in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	PEARL HARBOR	in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	HEAD OVER HEELS	in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	MARTIN NIEVERA LIVE June 15-16 9PM Onstage	

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	PEARL HARBOR THX	in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	THE REPLICANT	in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	HEAD OVER HEELS	in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	SPOT	in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	GET OVER IT	in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	ANTS IN THE PANTS
2 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
3 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURNS
4 GOLD (DTS)	SPOT
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
6 GOLD (SDDS)	HEAD OVER HEELS
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
8 [illegible]	THE REPLICANT
9 [illegible]	GET OVER IT
10 [illegible]	BUHAY KAMAO

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	SOMEONE LIKE YOU
2	ANTI TRUST
3 (DTS)	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6 (DTS)	PEARL HARBOR

Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	AMBISYOSA
2 (DTS)	PEARL HARBOR
3	GET OVER IT

Masagana CINEMA 2040
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	BUHAY KAMAO
2	PEARL HARBOR
3	THE REPLICANT

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	BUHAY KAMAO
2	OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
3	HEAD OVER HEELS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PEARL HARBOR
5	CUT AWAY

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	BUHAY KAMAO
4	MAGENTA
5	SPOT
6	PEARL HARBOR
7	THE REPLICANT
8	THE MUMMY RETURNS

LOUIE'S CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2010/892.3349

1	PEARL HARBOR

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	THE MUMMY RETURNS
2	ALAS DOSE

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	RESERVE
2	SEX CLUB
3	PEARL HARBOR

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	BUHAY KAMAO
A	PEARL HARBOR

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	BUHAY KAMAO
2	MAGENTA
3	ANTS IN THE PANTS
4	GET OVER IT
5	PEARL HARBOR
6	THE REPLICANT
7 (DTS)	SPOT
8 (SDDS)	HEAD OVER HEELS
9 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	BUHAY KAMAO

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	BUHAY KAMAO
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	THE REPLICANT
4 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
5	GET OVER IT
6 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
7 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURNS
8	LABRADOR
9	MAGENTA

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	SPOT
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	THE REPLICANT
4	MAGENTA
5 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
6	HEAD OVER HEELS
7 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
8	GET OVER IT

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	THE REPLICANT
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3 (DTS)	SPOT
4	GET OVER IT
5 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BUHAY KAMAO

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	BUHAY KAMAO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	
Lords	
Jennet	LABRADOR

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	THE REPLICANT
4	GET OVER IT

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

1	
3	BUHAY KAMAO

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
2	THE REPLICANT
3	MAGENTA
4	BUHAY KAMAO
5	SPOT

New Divisoria Mall
CINEMA tel 244.4619

1	BUHAY KAMAO
2	PEARL HARBOR
3	LABRADOR
4	THE REPLICANT
5	MAGENTA
6	RESERVE

Baclaran LRT
CINEMA tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	BUHAY KAMAO
2	THE REPLICANT
3	PEARL HARBOR
4	
5	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	ANGEL EYES
3 (DTS)	BUHAY KAMAO

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	ANTS IN THE PANTS
2 (DTS)	BUHAY KAMAO
3 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
4	ANGEL EYES

Llanas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
2	MY WIFE LOVER
3	BUHAY KAMAO
4 (DTS)	THE REPLICANT

Llanas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURNS
4	ANTS IN THE PANTS
5	ANGEL EYES

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	ANGEL EYES

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	BUHAY KAMAO
3	ANGEL EYES

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	KAMASUTRA
2	15 MINUTES
3	SAMBAHIN ANG NGALAN MO

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	BUHAY KAMAO
2	PEARL HARBOR
3	ANGEL EYES

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	PEARL HARBOR
2 (DTS)	BUHAY KAMAO

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	PEARL HARBOR

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SELOSA
2	PEARL HARBOR
3	THE MUMMY RETURNS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	ANGEL EYES
2	LABRADOR
3	PEARL HARBOR
4	PEARL HARBOR

Berma
tel 879.2168

1	PEARL HARBOR
2	THE REPLICANT

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	SPOT
2	LABRADOR
3	BUHAY KAMAO
4	PEARL HARBOR

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	PEARL HARBOR
2	ANGEL EYES
3	BUHAY KAMAO
4 (DTS EX)	THE MUMMY RETURNS

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❶	PEARL HARBOR
❷	HEAD OVER HEELS
❸	GET OVER IT
❹	SPOT
❺	BUHAY KAMAO
❻	PEARL HARBOR
❼	THE REPLICANT

GALLERIA

1	OPENS JUNE 30, 2001
2	PEARL HARBOR
3	BUHAY KAMAO
4	PEARL HARBOR
5	HEAD OVER HEELS
6	GET OVER IT
7	SPOT
8	THE REPLICANT
9	THE MUMMY RETURNS
10	OPENS JUNE 17, 2001

IMUS
(046)875-3838

❶	PEARL HARBOR
❷	HEAD OVER HEELS
❸	THE REPLICANT
❹	GET OVER IT
❺	SPOT
❻	BUHAY KAMAO

BACOLOD
(034)441-0453

❶	PEARL HARBOR
❷	PEARL HARBOR
❸	LUCKY NUMBERS
❹	THE MUMMY RETURNS
❺	SOMEONE LIKE YOU
❻	CARTA ALAS

DOLBY dts SDDS

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	BUHAY KAMAO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	THE REPLICANT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	SPOT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	PEARL HARBOR
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	GET OVER IT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	HEAD OVER HEELS
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	BUHAY KAMAO
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	PEARL HARBOR
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	HULING PAGHIHINTAY / KAMASUTRE 2
ODEON	BUHAY KAMAO
ODEON-2	MAGENTA
ROBEN	THE REPLICANT
TANDEM-1	KUNG LILIGAYA KA
TANDEM-2	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
TIMES	THE CROW / FAMILY MAN

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	BUHAY KAMAO
QUEZON-1	BUHAY KAMAO
REMAR	BUHAY KAMAO
REMAR-2	MAGENTA

CUBAO

OCEAN SUPERAMA	BABAENG PUTIK
OCEAN CINEMA-A	PANABLA
OCEAN CINEMA-B	CRISELDA

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-2	FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BUHAY KAMAO
CINEMA-2	LABRADOR
CINEMA-3	TRAFFIC
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-6	THE MUMMY RETURNS
CINEMA-7	BUHAY KAMAO
CINEMA-8	ANTS IN THE PANTS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	SPOT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-12	REPLICANT
CINEMA-14	GET OVER IT
CINEMA-15	HEAD OVER HEELS

LORES

CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED

POWER PLANT CINEMA

CINEMA-1	GET OVER IT
CINEMA-2	SPOT
CINEMA-3	PEARL HARBOR
CINEMA-4	HEAD OVER HEELS
CINEMA-5	THE MUMMY RETURNS
CINEMA-6	PEARL HARBOR

UNIWIDE METROMALL

(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	MS. CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-2	ANG GUSTO KO SA LALAKE
CINEMA-4	KATAWAN

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	MS. CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
CINEMA-4	BUHAY NA MANIKIN

Makati is Neat winner again

MAKATI'S public school children have again out-performed students from other school division in Metro Manila and the rest of the country in the national entrance examinations for elementary students.

This is the seventh straight year that Makati topped the National Elementary Achievement Test (Neat), according to Makati City Mayor Elenita Binay.

Makati ranked first with an overall mean percentage of 54.72, followed by Marikina, 50.46; Manila, 50.44; Muntinlupa, 50.26; and Pasig-San Juan, 49.38.

Makati again got the highest percentage scores in English, Science, Mathematics, Filipino and Social Studies, Binay said.

She said that for this year alone, the city government set aside P263 million for the purchase of educational materials for the free use of the city's public elementary and high school students.

Binay said that in the National Secondary Achievement Test (NSAT), Makati ranked second, yielding to Marikina in a close race. Marikina got an overall mean percentage of 58.54; Makati, 57.88; Manila, 57.03; Parañaque, 56.59; and Las Piñas, 55.97.

Makati had ranked first in the NSAT in 1994, 1996 and 1999.

Tollway emergency? Call 16-911

EFFECTIVE yesterday, tollway users only have to dial 16-911 for any medical emergencies inside the tollway.

Tollway operators Philippine National Construction Corp. (PNCC) and Skyway Corp. and medical service provider Lifeline Arrows Medical Specialists Inc. recently entered into an agreement on the deployment of medical ambulances at the North Luzon Tollway, the South Luzon Tollway and the Skyway System.

Lifeline Arrows has assigned an ambulance at the PNCC Clinic in Sucat, Parañaque to serve tollway users at the SLT and the Skyway System, and at the NLT Sta. Rita, Bulacan office to serve NLT users, according to PNCC chair and CEO Luis Sison.

Two nurses and a transport officer complement the ambulance.

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LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Gang neutralized

THE WESTERN Police District on Thursday said it has neutralized a big-time hijacking and carnap syndicate with the arrest of 11 suspects in Pasig City Tuesday night.

The suspects were surrounded and arrested in their hideout in Santolan, Pasig around 8 p.m. Tuesday, police said. Found in the yard of the house was a 20-foot van that the suspects took during their latest heist on June 8.

Supt. Bayani de la Rea of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group's Western District Office said that among those arrested were suspected leaders Eduardo Valencia, 55, of Tondo, and Renato Aguas, 48, of Marulas, Valenzuela City.

Also arrested were Victor de los Santos, 22; Ricardo Navarro, 40; Hilario Alvarez, 52; Ramil Canlas, 30; Andrew Wood, 39; his brother Dannie, 21; and a 17-year-old boy.

Alvarez' wife Caridad, 50, and Wood's wife Mila, 35, were also arrested for allegedly contacting buyers for the stolen goods.

The truck, owned by the Malaya Shipping Services, was on its way to the Subic Free Port when the suspects hijacked it on Circumferential Road 3 in Caloocan City.

The driver and his helper said the hijackers hogtied and later dumped them at the Payatas dump in Quezon City.

The truck was carrying 20 tons of copper wire worth P4 million for which the suspects had already found a buyer in Valenzuela, De la Rea said.

He said the group was also behind four other hijacking cases involving trucks owned by Nestlé, Kumho tires, imported leather goods and a corned beef manufacturer.

The suspects usually operated in groups of four and used several cars. Armed with long and short firearms, they pretended to be mobile or stationary police checkpoints to lure truck drivers.

Jerome Aning

Stolen taxi crashes during police chase

POLICE arrested one of two suspected taxi robbers after a chase when the suspects smashed their stolen cab into a traffic island in Mandaluyong City early Thursday morning.

Senior Insp. Efren Jugo, Mandaluyong police Criminal Investigation Division chief, identified the suspect as Ireneo Malmis, 31, of Barangay Bagong Silang, Caloocan City.

But Malmis' companion, whom Jugo identified only as Tony, was able to escape.

Police said they found on Malmis two homemade .38 caliber revolvers, P1,100 cash and a white Toyota Corolla XL taxi (UGP-945) allegedly stolen from driver Dario Tiangco of D. Constancia Street, Makati City.

Investigators said the two men boarded Tiangco's cab on Jupiter Street in Makati at 5 a.m. Thursday and asked to be taken to Mandaluyong City. On Coronado Street in Mandaluyong, one of the two men announced the holdup while the other took over the wheel.

The two men dropped Tiangco on nearby San Francisco Street. The driver went straight to the police.

Minutes later, two police prowl cars spotted the taxi and chased it around the Maysilo Circle.

Police said the taxi rammed into a traffic island when it drove back to San Francisco Street.

The two men jumped out of the cab and fled separately. Police said a brief exchange of gunfire ensued, after which Malmis was cornered and surrendered to police with his handgun.

He is now detained at the Mandaluyong police station and is facing charges of car theft and robbery.

Agnes E. Donato

Jessica is gone

JESSICA REYES, who was suffering from leukemia, passed away on June 13 at the age of 11. Her story was featured in this section on May 7 with an appeal for help from donors.

Jessica's family and the Department of Social Welfare and Development office in Binangonan, Rizal wish to thank all those who gave help.

They also request the kind donors and benefactors to stop sending them donations, and direct these donations instead to others in need.

Thanksgiving for Namfrel volunteers

ALL the men and women who served as National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) volunteers during the May 14 elections in Quezon City Distric 2 are invited to a thanksgiving party for them tomorrow, June 17, 2 p.m., at the BF Homes Quezon City covered court across Ever Gotesco-Commonwealth.

For inquiries, please e-mail namfrelqc-dist2@yahoogroups.com.

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4 HEAD OVER HEELS - P 13 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00	5 MUMMY RETURNS - P 13 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00	6 PEARL HARBOR - P 13 11:00, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30

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David Duchovny (FBI Agent Mulder in X-FILES), Orlando Jones (BEDAZZLED), Seann William Scott (AMERICAN PIE) and two-time Oscar® nominee Julianne Moore (HANNIBAL) star as the only people standing between the aliens and world domination.

A team of visual effects wizards, led by Phil Tippett, worked with director Ivan Reitman (GHOSTBUSTERS) to design an ever-evolving assortment of alien creatures, which were then digitally rendered. Tippett created the dinosaurs in JURASSIC PARK and the giant alien insects in STARSHIP TROOPERS.

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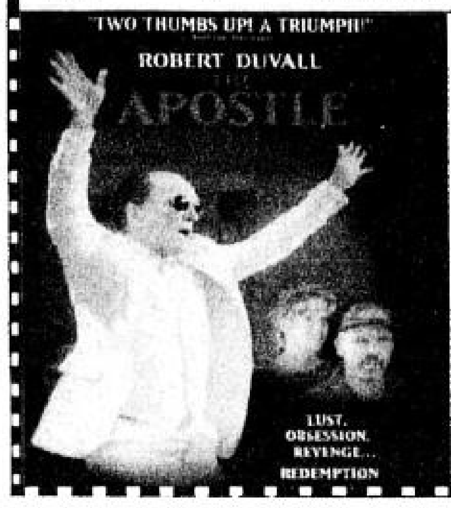
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ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION
Best Actor - Robert Duvall

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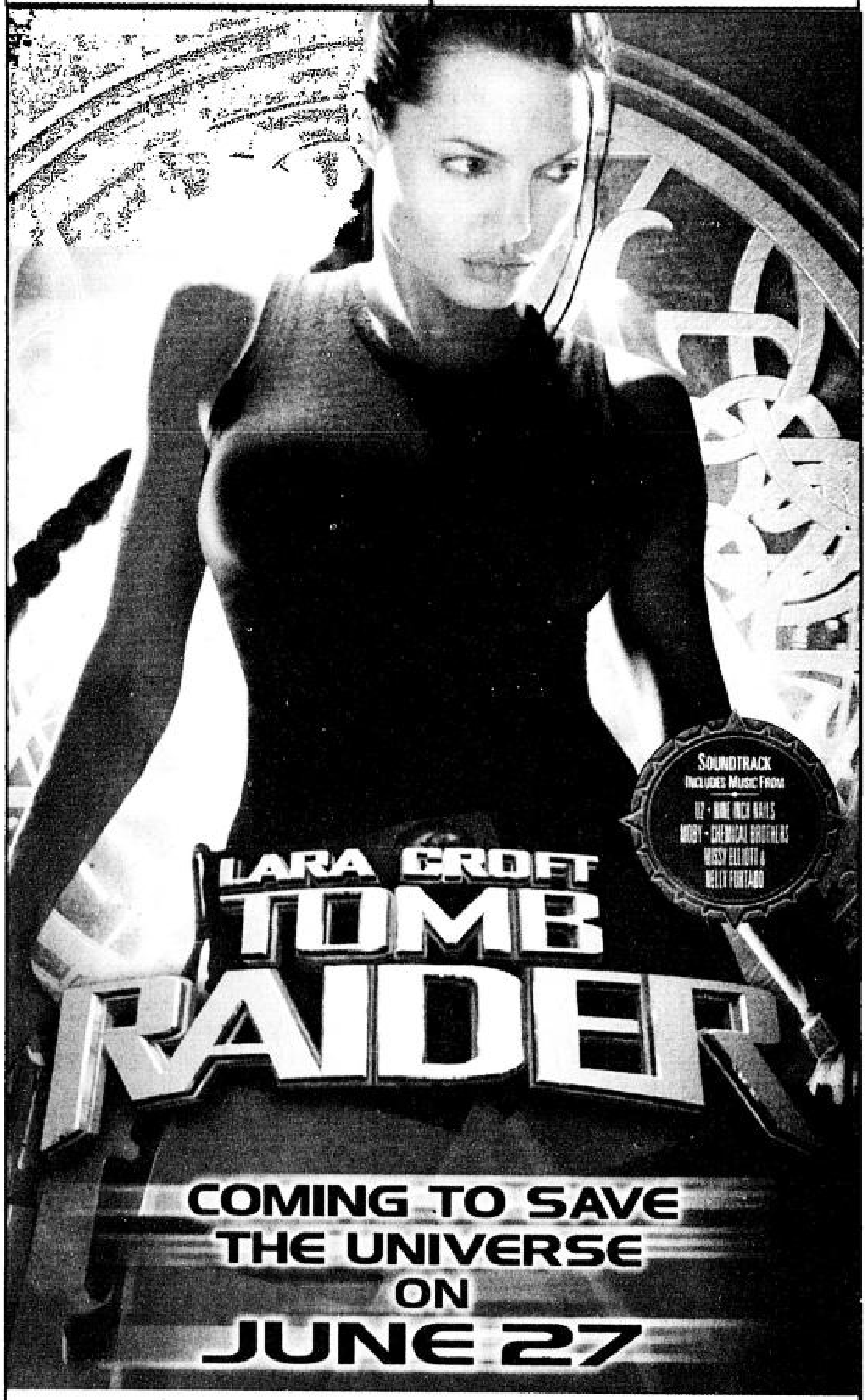
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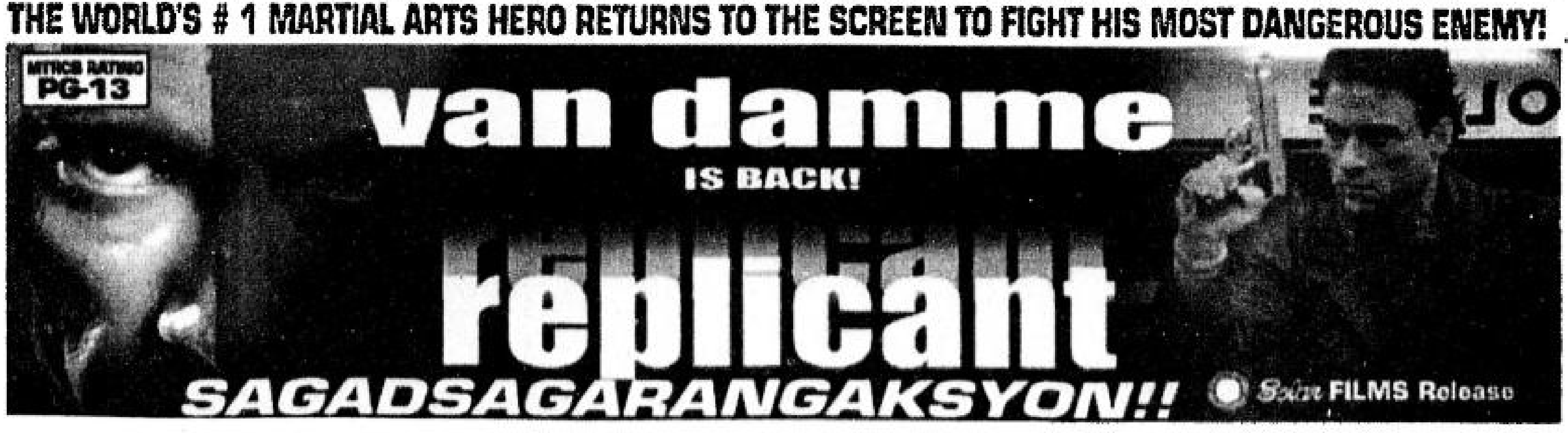
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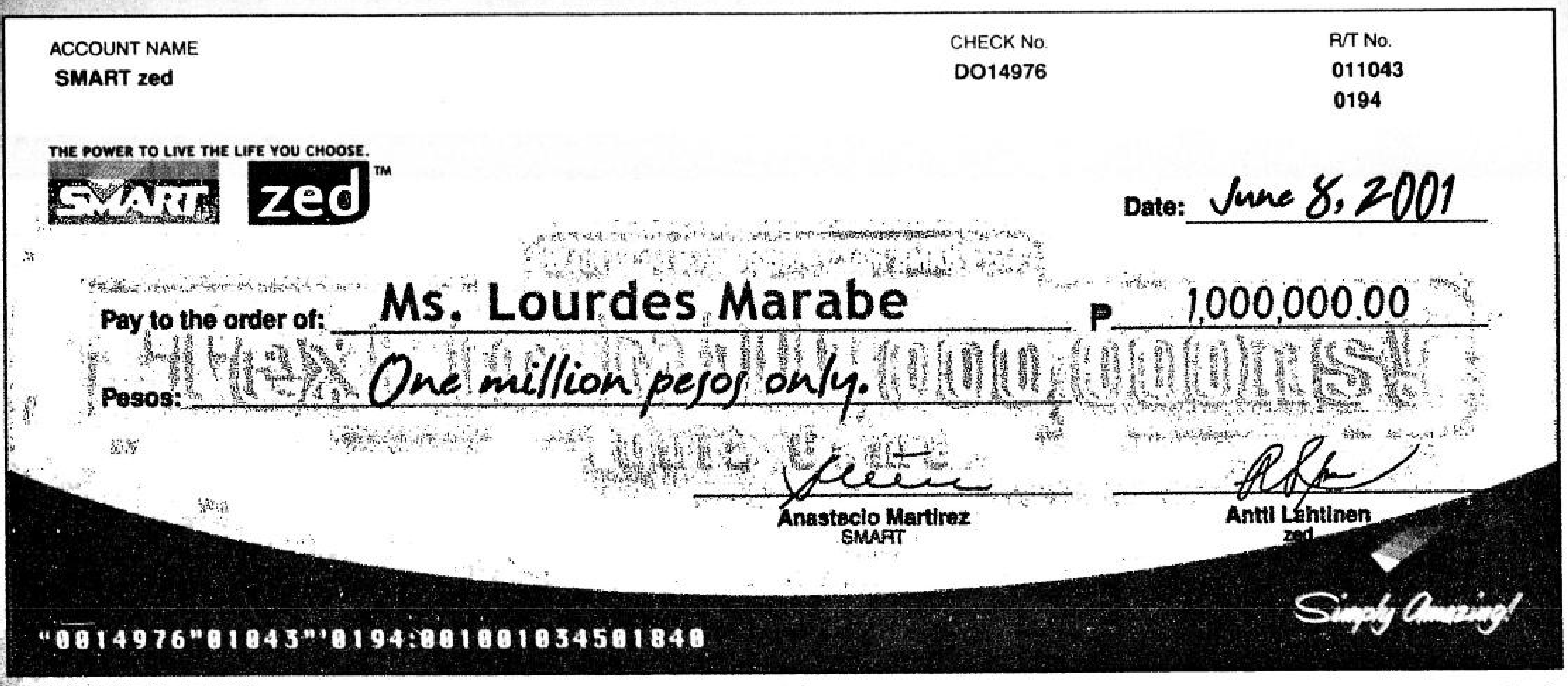

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BUSINESS

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

WB may peg program loan at $200M

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE WORLD Bank is limiting to a maximum of $200 million the next program loan it will extend to the Philippines, a source in the Department of Finance said.

The source, who requested anonymity, said the amount was far below the $400 million to $600 million in loan that the government has been trying to obtain from the World Bank mainly for the country's budget deficit funding.

He said the World Bank was no longer keen on giving the country a $400-million to $600-million program loan and that the bank had allocated only as much as $200 million.

Finance Secretary Isidro Camacho did not comment on the matter but said the Macapagal administration would continue negotiations with the World Bank for a higher program loan. He said the government would try to seal a new loan agreement with the World Bank within the year.

Camacho said the plan was to seek a Public Sector Reform Loan, a type of loan that is usually tied to conditions involving fiscal discipline, government re-engineering and structural reform programs.

For the new program loan, the finance chief said the government wanted the World Bank to consider matching the portion of the banking sector reform loan that lapsed amounting to $400 million.

"We will still try to ask for $400 million to $600 million or the level that the bank had once given us," Camacho said.

The government cancelled last month $400 million of the $600-million banking sector reform loan mainly due to the stringent conditions tied to it.

With this experience, the government said it would try not to commit itself to conditions "that might not be doable in the medium term," particularly when it concerns legislative measures, which are beyond the administration's control.

The government believed that the conditions imposed on the Philippines for the banking loan, specifically the full privatization of the Philippine National Bank, were too stringent.

World Bank country director Vinay Bhargava earlier said the bank was open to extending a new program loan to the Philippine government.

"We usually enter into a three-year rolling program with the government. This is a good chance to talk about a new program loan," Bhargava said.

The $600-million banking sector reform loan was approved in late 1998 and was co-financed by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation. It requires reforms such as the government's divestment of its PNB holdings, and amendments to the Central Bank Act and the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. charter.

The banking sector loan, although anchored on banking sector reforms, would have been used by the government to plug its budget deficit, which was estimated to hit P145 billion this year.

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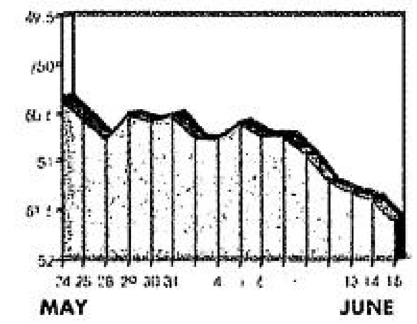


GRAPHS BY RONNIE CABUANG

Peso-Dollar Rate

P51.59= $

As of 5 p.m., June 15, 2001

¥121.40 = $1

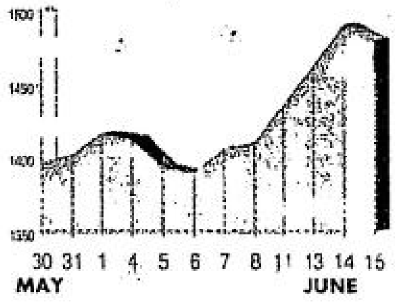
The US dollar was trading at 121.40 as of 5 p.m., June 15, 2001

GOLD:$275.50/276.00

per ounce Hong Kong, June 15, 2001

STOCK MARKET

PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Shares up

STOCKS moved up for six-straight session yesterday, lifted by follow-through buying on select blue chips led by telecom giant Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co, traders said.

While the kidnap crisis remains an overhang in the market, traders chose to discount the bad news and focus on the positives.

The government's decisive handling of the hostage drama in southern Philippines also provided some support to the market.

"The power bill is a good indication that the Macapagal administration is set to do reforms. The low interest rates are also a welcome relief as they stage the environment," said fund manager Albert Chua of All Asia Asset Management.

The 33-share composite index added 5.19 points, or 0.35 percent, to end at 1,479.30 points. The index was up 4.9 percent or 68.8 points on the week.

Turnover dipped to P749.26 million from the previous P800.34 million. Gainers led losers 59 to 31, while 38 stocks were unchanged.

Reuters

BTr on negotiated deals

THE BUREAU of Treasury will veer away from entering into negotiated deals to address some banks' outcry for transparency in the government's long-term borrowings, National Treasurer Sergio Edeza said.

The bureau's decision to impose a moratorium on negotiated deals of the government followed its meeting Wednesday with various banks and financial institutions that trade government securities.

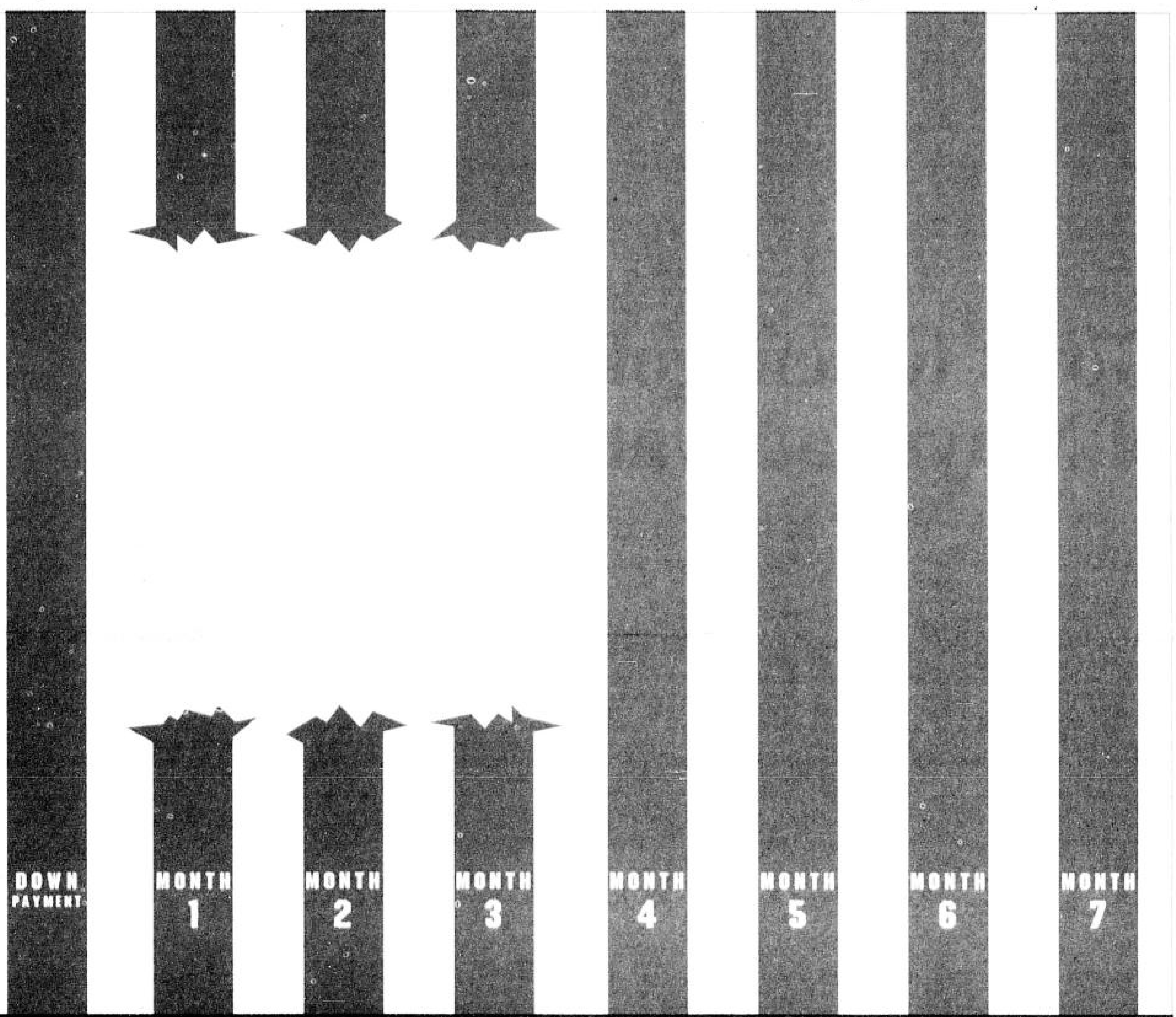
In the meeting, certain bankers questioned the non-disclosure of government bond issues made through negotiations instead of holding auctions.

In an interview, Danilo Alcoseba, China Banking Corp. head of treasury, said that aside from committing to a moratorium, Edeza also told the bankers in another meeting on Thursday that within two weeks, the bureau would come up with exact amounts of its negotiated deals.

Alcoseba noted that some market participants discovered only recently that the government, through the Bureau of Treasury's negotiated deals, had issued more bonds than it said it would through auctions.

"The market has been pricing based on amounts (of long-term borrowings) it knew about. If the amounts that eventually came out were much bigger, then the market might have made some adjustments (on pricing)," he explained.

The government, through auctions held by the Bureau of Treasury, borrowed weekly as much as P4 billion from the private sector through the issuance of two-year and five-year bonds.



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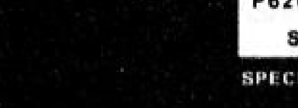

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1740 Series of 2001

Slipping on the job

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

AT long last, instead of sleeping on the job, a government agency has done something about the rising unemployment rate. I wanted to do something about it myself, but I got busy trying to find the cure to some STDs.

Anyway, I refer to the National Statistics Office. This agency brought down the unemployment rate singlehandedly. I am not kidding. It is really down, at least based on statistics supplied by statisticians from the statistics office.

And somebody from the Department of Labor and Employment, a.k.a. DOLE (no relations to the pineapple juices), even pontificated that the drop in the unemployment rate was a direct result of the change in administration. Yeah, right! Tsp, tsp, tsp!

***

IT seems the unemployment rate went down to 13.3 percent during the first four months of the year, compared to 13.9 percent in the same months last year. Well, is that good news or is that good news?

The implication is clear. This country is doing much better under this cute administration of Gloriaetta than it did under the crude administration of the man named Band . . . Wrist Band.

The unemployment rate was such a good piece of news that, unfortunately, the number of jobless actually went up substantially. The unemployment rate improved, in other words, but we have more jobless people. It's like being almost semi-pregnant.

***

YOU see, the same statistics showed that there were some 4.3 million jobless in the first four months of last year. This time around, there were about 100,000 more. That's a cool 4.4 million of us bumming around.

If 4.4 million able-bodied young men and women are jobless, and they have nothing better to do, the government has a big problem. That's more than the population of New Zealand. Gosh, that's almost twice the entire population of Singapore.

Let's even take the statistics supplied by statisticians from the statistics office at their face value. Let's say we believe them. It seems we have 4.4 million individuals who, one of these days, who knows, can become kidnappers or call girls or both.

***

LOOK at that: The unemployment rate became so good, the employment picture became bad. Is it another inexplicable mystery of the universe? Well, it's just one example of how cold statistics can lie. You know—much like public officials!

That is not all. A big portion of the increase in the "employed," according to the statistics supplied by statisticians of the statistics office, are the so-called "unpaid family workers." They are ones washing the dishes and things like that.

Apparently, the same statistics showed "unpaid family workers" increased by almost a million this year. One million! All considered as employed! According to government statistics! In other words, there are a million more of those lousy bums.

***

THE STATISTICS office learns about such things by conducting surveys. They go around asking people questions. I don't know about you, but in all my entire life, I have never been asked by anybody from the statistics office.

My friends insist I can say the same thing about them. So do all my immediate relatives, and I tell you, they are many. None of my relatives and friends ever encountered somebody who asked questions whether or not they are lousy bums.

Still, our government considers bums as "employed," even if somebody else is earning the money to pay for the food to feed them. You are "gainfully employed," if you as much as water the plants in your mother's house with your very own urine.

***

LET'S say that the statistics office did not intentionally try to fool us. So let's just add that cool one million addition to the "unpaid family workers" to the number of jobless. Guess what? Instead of good news, the unemployment rate becomes bad news.

That means somebody somehow somewhere in this cute administration can be slipping fast in the job performance rating. We are simply not creating enough new jobs. This means that we are not attracting enough investments.

Now don't look at Trade and Industry Secretary Mar Roxas. The guy is working like a slave. Look, he is still a bachelor up to know. He is so busy, he cannot even find time to get married and raise a son to carry his name when he becomes senator someday.

***

DESPITE what the A-kisser in DOLE said, a mere change in administration could never guarantee good times. The process, as matter of fact, worsened the situation. Whenever trouble erupts in the streets, you can be sure investors become wary.

Thus, investments today under this cute administration are much lower than they were under the crude administration. Why? Because there was trouble, which frightened investors, which denied us new jobs, which should only lead to more trouble.

Put another way, more jobless means more trouble, and more trouble means less investments, and less investments means more jobless. It's like the flea sucking its own blood in a dog chasing its tail on top of a spinning wheel in a merry-go-round.

Gov't to renegotiate terms of Maynilad water rates hike

By Clarissa S. Batino

ECONOMIC Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said yesterday that the Macapagal administration was renegotiating terms of a water rates hike agreement that it recalled last week.

In an interview, Canlas said the government would order the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System to work out a new deal with Maynilad Water Services Inc.

Maynilad, a utility owned by the Lopez family which controls the eastern zone of MWSS' service area, was earlier allowed in a memorandum of agreement with the government to charge an additional P4.75 per cubic meter in its monthly water bills starting next month.

The government recalled this agreement after it realized that the adjustment meant a 72-percent increase in Maynilad's rates.

Canlas said the government was reviewing this agreement to come up with an adjustment that would not be too much of a burden for Maynilad's customers.

"We have to look at the numbers and how the rates hike would affect water consumers, and if it could be absorbed by these consumers," he said.

"We shall see to it that consumer welfare is protected. We could still renegotiate it after realizing the huge impact to consumers," he added.

Maynilad sought an increase in its rates to recover P2.7 billion worth of foreign exchange losses in the next 18 months.

Early this year, Maynilad was allowed to increase its basic rate by 45 centavos per cubic meter on account of higher inflation and peso depreciation.

The MWSS' other concessionaire, the Ayala-owned Manila Water Co., was also given the go-ahead to raise its rates by 19 centavos per cubic meter.

Maynilad's basic charge was P6.58 per cubic meter. On top of this, there was a P1.27-per-cubic-meter fee to cover for peso-dollar fluctuations, charges for meters, sewers, environmental fee, and value-added tax.

Maynilad had been pressing the government to allow it to recover losses arising from the sharp depreciation in the value of the peso against the dollar since last year.

The government earlier turned down Maynilad's request for an automatic currency exchange rate mechanism similar to those of other utilities because this would mean changing the terms of the 25-year concession agreement.

When Maynilad won the bidding for the servicing of half of the MWSS concession area, it absorbed the bulk of the MWSS' foreign loans amounting to $800 million.

Maynilad stopped paying its debt obligations to the MWSS in March after the government turned down the water firm's request for an automatic currency exchange rate adjustment scheme.

"We now have P620 million in concession fees to the MWSS," Maynilad chief Rafael Alunan said in a news briefing. "But we are still uncertain whether we could pay and immediately assume these obligations since we have to settle first our long term loans of $350 million."

RP gets $665-M peace, dev't fund

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES has secured $665 million in peace and development loans from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

In a joint release yesterday, the World Bank, ADB and National Economic and Development Authority said the new loans were part of a $2-billion facility that the World Bank and ADB had made available for the Philippines between 2002 and 2004.

The statement said the World Bank and ADB agreed during its recently concluded loan programming talks with the Philippine government to release $665 million to support the country's peace and development efforts.

The rest of the $2-billion facility were still under discussions, it said.

The ADB has earmarked some $307.6 million to finance six capital assistance and 12 technical assistance projects in the country.

The World Bank, for its part, has offered to release $255 million to $365 million to finance five capital assistance projects.

Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said these new loans would be used to promote peace and development in Mindanao.

The thrust, he said, would be to reduce poverty and promote good governance in Mindanao in line with the Macapagal administration's 2001-2004 Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan.

"We will be packaging more quick-disbursing program loans to support the reforms embodied in the MTPDP and our multi-year financing program," Canlas said.

He said the World Bank and ADB remained committed to supporting the government's initiatives in promoting peace and development in Mindanao.

Their support would be in the form of development loans geared toward basic education, support for community-based resource management and comprehensive relief, rehabilitation and development, and, capability building for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, he said.

Canlas said the World Bank and ADB would also provide assistance to urban and rural poor communities, generate employment through small and medium-scale enterprises, improve the provision of education and health services, and expand and upgrade rural services.

He said the two institutions would also support the government's initiatives to improve public expenditure management and revenue generation, trade policy, procurement and contract review, as well as the Supreme Court's reform program for the judiciary.

ADB country director Gunter Hecker said the ADB was supportive of the goals of the present administration and was inclined to provide more assistance to finance pro-poor initiatives as embodied in ADB's country strategy and its new poverty partnership agreement with the government.

"The programmed policy interventions address governance issues, more efficient provision of public goods and services, and the promotion of a more vibrant securities market and private sector that can both mobilize investment and undertake the provision of key infrastructure and services," Hecker said.

Gov't moves to settle coco chemicals row

THE PHILIPPINE Coconut Authority said yesterday that it would work out an amicable settlement of a row over the use of coconut-based chemicals to produce soaps and detergents.

In an interview, PCA administrator Danilo Coronacion said the government would push for the re-implementation of an executive order that required soap and detergent manufacturers to use coconut "surfactants" or fatty acids.

Executive Order 259, issued in 1987 by then President Corazon Aquino, required the use of coconut-based chemicals to produce 60 percent of a soap or a detergent. The order was issued to give the local coconut industry a steady market for their products.

In December last year, however, soap and detergent manufacturers secured a court injunction suspending the implementation of EO 259. They complained that the use of coconut surfactants had raised their production costs, cutting their earnings.

Coronacion said the agriculture department would work out a settlement between the coconut industry, on one hand, and soap and detergent manufacturers, on the other.

He underscored the importance of re-implementing EO 259, saying it would give the coconut industry a market for some 150,000 metric tons of coconut oil.

The court injunction, he said, had cut by half sales of coconut-based chemicals.

The PCA estimates that the coconut chemical industry generates about P1.7 billion in earnings a year from coconut surfactants. This figure represents a third of the industry's total annual output, which averages 450,000 metric tons.

US billing firm expands to RP

By Abigail L. Ho

CHECKFREE i-Solutions, the most dominant billing and statement presentment solutions provider in the United States, has expanded its operations to the Philippines through a partnership agreement with software developer and systems integrator Computer Data Vision Inc.

This partnership is part of CheckFree's effort to expand its Asian market, following the announcement of its channel partnership in Malaysia and the opening of its Asia-Pacific headquarters in Singapore.

CheckFree sees the Philippines as a very lucrative market for its services, especially in the telecommunications, banking and utility sectors.

"The nascent e-commerce sector in the Philippines and the adoption of the Internet hold a huge potential for our e-billing and e-statement solutions," CheckFree senior vice president and general manager for international Curtis Croft said.

Even with the economic slowdown that the country was experiencing, CDVI president Edgardo Castro said he was very optimistic about how their partnership would fare here.

"I believe that bill presentment is necessary for e-commerce. Right now, we are geared toward providing services for mobile phone users as we don't have enough Internet penetration yet," he said.

DISCLOSURES

RE-ELECTED to the board of directors of **Empire East Land Holdings Inc.** were Andrew Tan, Gerardo Garcia, George Yang, Anthony Charlemagne Yu, Cirilo Manlangit and Enrique Santos L. Sy.

***

MACONDRAY Plastics Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on July 20, 10 a.m., at its principal office in Panacan, Davao City. The record date is June 25.

***

ALLIANCE Global Group Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Aug. 22, 9 a.m., at The Richmonde Hotel, Pasig. The record date is June 1.

***

THE BOARD of **JG Summit Holdings Inc.** has approved a stock dividend equivalent to 10 percent of the outstanding common stock to stockholders of record as of Aug. 24.

***

FIRST e-Bank Corp. clarified that the par value of common shares was P1 per share, not P10.

***

SOUTHEAST Asia Cement Holdings Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 27, 8 a.m., at The Peninsula Hotel, Makati. The record date is May 30.

***

FAR Eastern University Inc. has declared a cash dividend of P7.50 per share to all stockholders on record as of June 26 payable on July 6. *Compiled by Ray Leyesa, PDI Research*

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Friday, June 15, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	6,000
Banco Filipino Sav & Mort	100	100	100	100	500
Bank of the Phil. Islands	75.5	77	75.5	77	2,326,300
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	41	41.5	41	41.5	172,600
First E-Bank Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	4,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	216	218	215	217	138,070
Prudential Bank	400	460	400	450	94,770
Phil. Bank of Comm.	130	130	130	130	100
Philippine National Bank	48.5	49.5	48.5	49.5	24,400
Security Bank Corp.	21	21	21	21	7,200
Union Bank of the Phil.	26	26	26	26	2,400
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	50,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	231	231	231	231	100
Manulife Financial Corp.	1365	1365	1360	1365	3,910
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1120	1125	1120	1120	2,360
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	40	40	40	40	1,600
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.6	0.61	0.59	0.59	11,070,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	690	690	690	690	80
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.045	0.045	0.042	0.045	1,800,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	70,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	10,000
Piltel	0.7	0.7	0.66	0.66	230,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	150,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	710	725	710	725	114,040
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.042	0.042	0.041	0.042	174,900,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	41	41	40.5	40.5	39,700
Manila Electric Co. B	56.5	56.5	56	56.5	184,700
Petron Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.42	2.42	21,029,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	26,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.2	13,184,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.37	0.39	3,740,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	25,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.14	1.22	1.14	1.2	3,772,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.16	2.16	2.1	2.1	1,242,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.15	2,220,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	356,000
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	26.5	27	26.5	26.5	316,500
Pancake House Inc.	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	30,000
RFM Corp.	1.24	1.34	1.24	1.34	613,000
San Miguel Corp. A	43	43.5	43	43.5	75,000
San Miguel Corp. B	48	48.5	48	48.5	903,900
Universal Robina Corp.	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	4,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	720,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	60,000
Ayala Corp.	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.2	1,645,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.58	1.58	1.56	1.56	255,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11	11.75	11	11.5	4,900
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.8	0.99	0.8	0.95	3,570,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.55	2,850,000
APC Group Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	250,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	136,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.1	2.2	2.06	2.06	82,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	20,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	2	2.04	1.94	1.96	31,045,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1,200,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	1,270,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.14	1.14	1.12	1.12	486,000
First Phil. Hldgs Corp.	26	27.5	26	27.5	913,900
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	60,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	1,260,000
Guoco Holdings (Phils.)	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	600,000
Ionics Inc.	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	15,900
Ipeople Inc.	1.02	1.02	1	1	20,000
Ipeople Inc. B	1	1	1	1	20,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.08	2.16	2.08	2.12	693,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	10,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.018	0.022	0.018	0.022	700,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	2,900,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.81	0.82	0.79	0.81	1,330,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.51	0.52	0.51	0.51	970,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	10,000
Philtread Hdgs. Corp. B	4	4	4	4	38,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	200,000
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	50,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co.	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.065	500,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.32	0.33	7,070,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	570,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	5	5.2	5	5.2	22,000
Interphil Labs Inc. A	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	132,000
Music Corp.	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	39,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.095	0.1	0.095	0.1	1,200,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	100,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	15.75	15.75	15.75	15.75	40,400
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	6,240,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.58	0.58	0.56	0.56	1,890,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.48	0.5	0.48	0.5	250,000
Manila Jockey Club	16	16.5	16	16.5	39,000
Philippine Racing Club	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	40	40.5	40	40	128,800
DMCI Holdings Inc.-Pref.	490	495	490	495	700
Equitable PCI Bank-War	2.8	2.8	2.75	2.75	24,000
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	680	680	680	680	1,720
Jollibee Warrants	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	10,000
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	120,000,000
RFM Corp.-Pref.	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	409,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10	10	10	10	800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,200
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.033	0.034	0.031	0.033	120,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.5	4,908,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	250,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	870,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	100,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	2,720,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.36	2.38	2.3	2.3	5,750,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	30,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	300,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.8	7	6.7	6.7	2,440,000
Universal Rightfield Prop.	0.085	0.085	0.08	0.085	2,600,000
Urbancorp Realty Dev. Inc.	0.28	0.3	0.28	0.3	20,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.0065	30,000,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	20,000,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	20,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.036	0.042	0.031	0.042	152,000,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines B	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	200,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.18	0.2	0.17	0.19	1,220,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0065	0.0065	0.006	0.006	163,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0065	0.007	0.0065	0.0065	205,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	125,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.016	0.019	0.016	0.019	70,200,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.23	0.245	0.23	0.245	3,550,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.26	1,030,000
Imperial Res.	0.023	0.026	0.021	0.026	24,900,000
Interport Res.	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	3,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	9,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.004	0.0042	0.004	0.0042	13,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.004	0.0044	0.004	0.0044	16,000,000
Pacifica	0.016	0.018	0.015	0.018	99,900,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	20,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	2,832,710	262,648,340.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	664,228,840	413,886,075.00
PRO	19,988,000	58,338,020.00
Mining	771,220,000	11,579,350.00
OIL	165,620,000	2,482,200.00
GRAND TOTALS:	1,644,089,550	748,933,985.00

AVERAGES		
Banks & Fin Svc	613.44	UP 4.79
Comm'l & Ind'l	2,059.82	UP 22.71
PRO	563.38	DOWN 8.80
Mining	1,229.70	UP 75.13
OIL	1.50	UP 0.07
All Shares Index	785.61	DOWN 5.29
Composite	1,479.30	UP 5.19

NO. OF ADVANCES: 59; NO. OF DECLINES: 31; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 38; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 128; NO. OF TRADES: 4,132

CURRENCIES

June 15, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency In US$	Foreign currency In Peso
United States	Dollar	1.160093	1.000000	51.3090
Japan	Yen	0.009563	0.008243	0.4229
United Kingdom	Pound	1.627030	1.402500	71.9609
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.148759	0.128230	6.5794
Switzerland	Franc	0.654495	0.564175	28.9473
Canada	Dollar	0.762968	0.657678	33.7448
Singapore	Dollar	0.639346	0.551116	28.2772
Australia	Dollar	0.612542	0.528011	27.0917
Bahrain	Dinar	3.077333	2.652661	136.1054
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.309367	0.266674	13.6828
Brunei	Dollar	0.637589	0.549602	28.1995
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000103	0.000089	0.0046
Thailand	Baht	0.025597	0.022065	1.1321
UAE	Dirham	0.315886	0.272294	13.9711
Korea	Won	0.000899	0.000775	0.0398
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.862000	44.2284
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.440734	22.6136
France	Franc	0.152450	0.131411	6.7426
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453781	0.391159	20.0700
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.062644	3.2142
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.021368	1.0964
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000445	0.0228
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.144978	7.4387
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.0043	0.2206
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005181	0.2658
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.021368	1.0964
Ireland	Runt	1.269738	1.094514	56.1584

ELI starts ₱5-B housing project

By Doris C. Dumlao

PROPERTY developer Empire East Land Holdings Inc. is setting aside about P5 billion for the development of Cambridge Town, a new urban housing project in the metropolis.

In an interview yesterday after the ELI stockholders meeting, company chair Andrew Tan said the new project was intended to be "the largest community near Metro Manila. It will be located along the boundary of Pasig and Cainta."

The new project is based on the township community concept, seeking to transform 7.4 hectares of prime real estate in Pasig into a "town within the city." The community will have its own school, to be known as Cambridge Town Academy, chapel, retail arcade and clubhouse.

Despite the uncertainties in the political and economic environment, ELI's strategy is to sustain its development activities in anticipation of the turnaround in the property sector.

"The recent events that have been unfolding will, of course, delay the recovery of the industry. I thought it would be able to recover by 2002 but we realized we have to wait for one more year, 2003," Tan said.

Like previous developments, ELI has started pre-selling units of Cambridge Town so it could use the proceeds to augment funds for the development of the project. The project will be formally launched by the third or fourth quarter of the year. "This is a big development. There will be about 4,500 units to be sold with an average size of 40 square meters," Tan said.

ELI investor relations officer Giovanni Ng said the first phase of the project, consisting of 400 units in four towers, would be completed within five years.

In 2000, ELI and its subsidiaries recorded a consolidated net income of P147.42 million, down from P292.38 million in 1999. It has P20.56 billion in total assets, of which P2.88 billion represented land-banking for future development.

In a report to the stockholders, ELI president Anthony Charlemagne Yu said the company had learned not only to survive the doldrums in the property sector but to turn the tide to its favor as well.

"To strengthen its balance sheet, ELI aimed to improve efficiency in all areas of operation. It focused on the full settlement of a number of loans, reducing the company's debt level by P476.6 million. At the same time, it improved collection efficiency, thereby enhancing its liquidity and giving it the flexibility to develop new projects and acquire new properties," Yu said.

Among ELI's other projects are California Garden Square in Mandaluyong, the Laguna Belair and Governor's Hills in Calabarzon, Gilmore Heights and Greenhills Garden Square. ELI is a subsidiary of Tan's Megaworld Corp.

GOINGS-ON

Smart Money bags awards

SMART Communications won two international awards for its pioneering electronic payments service called Smart Money MasterCard Electronic.

In its annual Asia-Pacific marketing awards held in Australia's Gold Coast last week, MasterCard International cited Smart Money as the best product innovation out of the entries submitted by MasterCard members in 13 countries in the Asia Pacific region. These included Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and Singapore.

Smart Money Electronic also received a citation from the global payments leader as finalist for the best television advertising category, a distinction equivalent to first runner-up prize. The said television commercial shows how the product can be used for making remote purchases.

New bank director

BANK of Commerce recently announced the election of former Ambassador Raul Ch. Rabe to its board.

Ambassador Rabe brings with him a wealth of experience from a diplomatic career that spanned more than three decades. He once held the Seoul, Korea, portfolio and was ambassador to Washington D.C. from 1993 to 1999. Until recently, Rabe was the Special Envoy of the President for the Americas and OIC countries.

No recall for RP-made Honda

HONDA Cars Philippines, the local manufacturer of the Civic, Accord and CR-V models, assures the motoring public that locally assembled Honda vehicles are not affected by the recall announcement in Japan.

Honda Motor recently announced a recall of some 19 Honda car models in Japan, including the Civic, Accord and CR-V, manufactured (in Japan) from Jan. 9 to April 20 this year. This is due to the defective wheel stud bolt that could possibly break and might cause accidents. However, Honda confirmed that to date there has been no report of any accident arising from this defect.

UCPB's reforestation program

UCPB Group employees led the effort to promote a sustainable reforestation program by planting the first 500 coffee seedlings in between hardwood trees at the 81-hectare reforestation site of UCPB atop Barangay Boso-Boso in Antipolo, Rizal. The planting of cash crops such as coffee and pamienta is an innovative move introduced by UCPB to generate some revenues for the program. This could serve as model for other private reforestation ventures, which are often hampered by lack of funding. Since the program's inception in 1989, the UCPB-CIIF Foundation has been developing the site without funding assistance from the local government or foreign agencies. More than a fourth or 33.3 hectares have been declared as fully reforested by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

12th Corrugated Boards & RSC Box Cost Estimating Workshop

- a practical workshop for non-technical persons in sales, brand management, finance, marketing, small and medium scale industry managers, logistics and purchasing buyers. - a refresher course for Q.C./Q.A./C.O.C. practitioners. - Over 70 companies have sent more than 150 participants

Choosing Paper Raw Materials - Fiber sources and Industry Norms, Virgin Fibers & Recycled Fibers - (what is the quality difference?), Standard Paper Specification - (how to specify and buy paper?), Virgin Kraftliner & Testliner - (should we use local or imported or virgin or test?), RSC Box & Box Measurement - Specification tolerance - (why the products will not fit? Loose packs?), Inside dimension - score-to-score dimension, Bursting strength conversion - (old rule 41 – is it still useful?), BOX COMPRESSION (STACKING HEIGHT), Factors affecting box compression - (how many boxes high can I stack up?), Ring crush or E.C.T.. test basis, McKee's equation - box compression factor computation, Price per pound - price per kilo - price per sqm, - (negotiating techniques), Pricing formula - (excel-based), Cost effective alternatives/savings - When: Tuesday June 26, 2001 - Time: 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. - Where: Mandarin Hotel, Makati Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas Streets, Makati City - email to: varpack@info.com.ph or fax (2) 899-2956

Medium-term plan awaits GMA OK

SOCIOECONOMIC Planning Secretary Dante B. Canlas has presented to President Macapagal-Arroyo for adoption the country's Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan 2001-2004, the blueprint where all government programs, projects and activities of the Macapagal administration will be based.

Canlas said the MTPDP was in line with the state policy in the 1987 Constitution to "free the people from poverty."

The MTPDP espouses winning the war against poverty through macroeconomic stability and sustained growth of income and employment across socioeconomic classes and regions of the country.

Canlas added that the MTPDP consisted of a comprehensive set of social and economic policies that directly address the needs of the poor coupled with good governance and institutional reforms.

"These are all geared toward expanding and equalizing access to economic opportunities, inculcating receptivity to change, and promoting personal responsibility," he said.

The MTPDP has 13 key chapters that will guide the Macapagal administration in its development and peace efforts. These are: ensuring sustained growth with equity and macroeconomic stability; promoting full, decent, and productive employment; enhancing capacities through health, education and housing; protecting vulnerable groups; accelerating comprehensive rural development; gearing for international competitiveness in industry and services; putting the Philippines on the international tourism map; strengthening public-private partnership in infrastructure development; bridging the digital divide, information and communications technology; reducing the regional disparities and spatial development; creating competitive and livable cities and urban areas; pursuing sustained peace and development in Mindanao, and improving the quality of life through good governance.

Canlas said an accompanying document to the MTPDP, the Medium-Term Public Investment Program (MTPIP), was being finalized. The MTPIP spells out the indicative financial resource requirements of government spending priorities.

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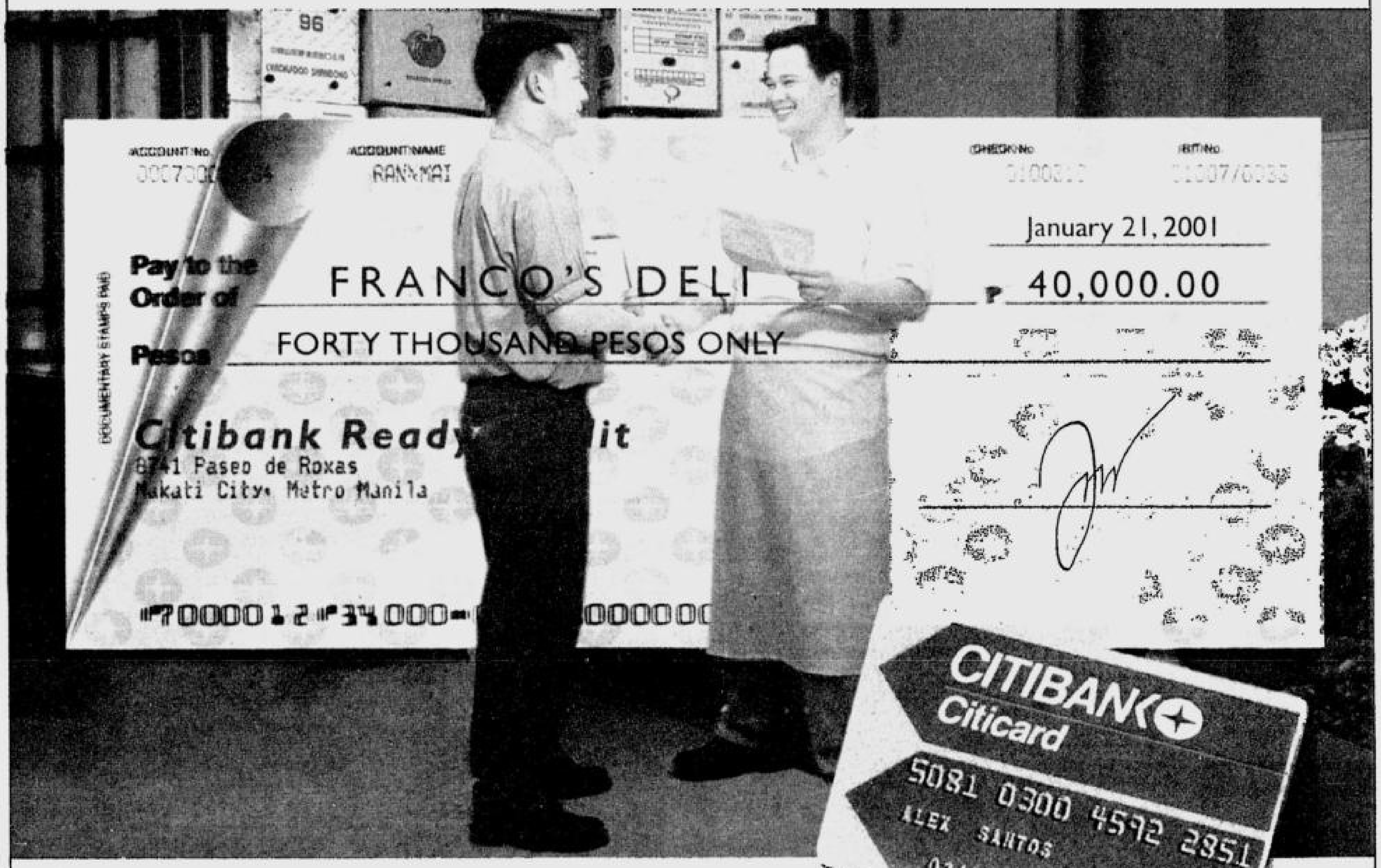

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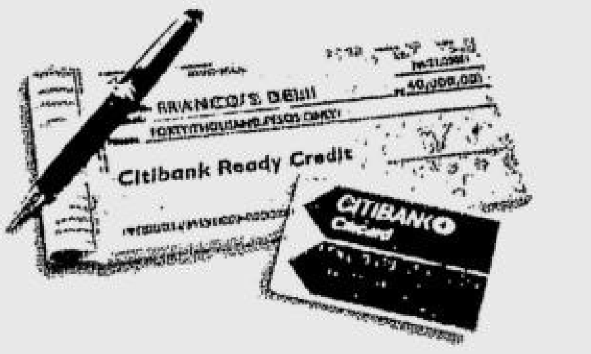

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Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
Branch 40, Manila

IN RE: PETITION FOR THE LEGITIMATION OF THE BIRTH OF JHUAN BESMONTE LAHM AND FOR THE CORRECTION OF ENTRY IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH OF JUAN BESMONTE LAHM, LAURA B. LAHM,
Petitioner,
- versus - SP. PROC. NO. 01100553
THE CITY CIVIL REGISTRAR OF MANILA AND THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE,
Respondents.
x------------------------------------x

ORDER

In the instant verified petition, petitioner prays, inter alia, that after due notice, publication and hearing, a judgment be rendered declaring JHUAN BESMONTE LAHM a legitimated child of spouses Bernd Lahm and Laura Besmonte Lahm and directing the Civil Registrar of the City of Manila and the National Statistics Office to cause the correction of entry in the Certificate of Live Birth of Jhuan Besmonte Lahm as follows.

Date of Marriage of Parents from
February 10, 1992 to July 29, 1993.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, set the same for hearing on July 17, 2001 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning before this Branch at Rooms 525-526, 5th Floor, Manila City Hall.

Let a copy of this Order be published, at the expense of the petitioner, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila, to be selected by raffle pursuant to P.D 1079.

The City Civil Registrar of Manila, through the Office of the Solicitor General, and any person having or claiming any interest under the entry, the correction of which is sought or for the prayed declaration of legitimation, may within fifteen (15) days from notice of the petition or from the last date of publication of such notice, file an opposition thereto. Serve the Office of the Solicitor General and the City Civil Registrar of Manila as well as the National Statistics Office with copies of this petition.

Furnish petitioner, her counsel, the Civil Registrar of the City of Manila, the National Statistics Office and the Office of the Solicitor General with this Order.

SO ORDERED.
Manila, April 16, 2001.

(Sgd.) HERMINIA V. PASAMBA
Acting Presiding Judge

(PDI - June 2, 9 & 16, 2001)

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JUANITO M. SILVESTRE has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs on June 7, 2001 under Doc#105, Page#22, Book#11, Series of 2001 before Notary Public Atty. Primitivo C. Cruz (PDI June 9,16,23,2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Fernando Z. Vicente has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. 109; Page 23; Book XII; Series of 2001 bef. Not. Pub. A. A. Cecilia C. Macatangay-Avila of Pasay City. (PDI- June 2,9, &16 2001)

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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Intramuros, Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) invites interested bidders to participate in the bidding for the supply and delivery of the following IT equipment:

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Interested bidders may secure application for eligibility forms and the checklist of eligibility documents from the Property Division, Administrative Service, 2nd Floor, DOLE Bldg., Intramuros, Manila. Application for eligibility together with the eligibility documents shall be received by the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Eligibility Screening Secretariat, Cash Division (CD) at the above-mentioned address until **June 29, 2001.** Only eligible bidders shall be invited to attend the pre-bid conference on **July 06, 2001** at **2:00 p.m.** at the Administrative Service Conference Room, 2nd Floor, DOLE Bldg., Intramuros, Manila. Attendance during the pre-bid conference is a must and an absent bidder shall be deemed to have waived his right to participate in the bidding.

The approved budget for the items to be bid is **TWELVE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED FOURTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE AND 40/100 PESOS** (Php 12,814,635.40)

The **PUBLIC BIDDING** is on **July 13, 2001** at the same scheduled time and venue.

Interested bidders are requested to present personally or through their authorized representatives their proposals on the date of the bidding. The Department of Labor and Employment reserves the right to reject any or all bids, without offering any reason, waive any informality therein and make an award to the bidder whose bid is most advantageous to the Department. The DOLE assumes no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

For further inquiries/information please call telephone numbers 527-3480 and 527-3583.

(Sgd.) **ALEX E. MARAAN**
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Internal Affairs

(PDI - June 16 & 17, 2001)

PNB PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Ref. No.	Location	Lot Area (sq.m.)	Floor Area	Indicative Price
METRO MANILA				
MM-B0748	No. 22 A. Cruz St., Bgy. San Antonio SFDM, Q.C.	204.80	170	P3,000,000.00
MM-B0704	No. 36 (30) L. Florentino St., BF Homes Exec. Village, Parañaque City	286	117	P2,800,000.00
MM-B0749	No. 413-A Tabayog St., Bo. Malamig Mandluyong City	100	135	P2,500,000.00
MM-B0752	Unit 404, 4/F, Adelina II Condominium Columbia cor. Imperial Sts., Quezon City	-	72.75	P1,900,000.00
MM-B0753	No. 20 Happy Glenn Loop Sun Valley Subd., Parañaque City	323	81	P1,700,000.00
MM-B0754	Tecson St., Marikina Exec. Homes Concepcion, Marikina City	280	119	P1,500,000.00
MM-B0755	Unit 514, 5/F, Plaza Tower Condominium 1175 L. Guerrero St., Ermita, Manila	-	35.20	P 700,000.00
MM-B0756	27-5 Interior Seminary Rd., Bagbag Novaliches, Quezon City	80	25	P 600,000.00
MM-B0757	Road Lot 2, Sto. Tomas, Subd. 6, Deparo, Kalookan City	280	-	P 300,000.00
LUZON				
LU-B0758	No. 31 Balagtas St., Pacita Complex Phase 4, San Vicente, San Pedro, Laguna	255	211	P2,050,000.00
LU-B0759	PF Subd., Macanaya, Aparri, Cagayan	516.85	72	P 902,000.00
LU-B0760	No. 84 Porche St., Village East Exec. Homes, Antipolo City	204	-	P 853,000.00
LU-B0761	Heron St., Grandvalley Subd. Angono, Rizal	236	-	P 520,000.00
LU-B0762	Bgy. Bunol, West Guimba, Nueva Ecija	10,000	-	P 500,000.00
LU-B0763	Bayanihan Vil., Caranglaan District Dagupan City	267	63	P 491,000.00
LU-B0764	cor. Washington & Nebraska Sts. Cityview Farmlot Subd., Bgy. Sampalok-III Piella, Dasmariñas, Cavite	530	-	P 400,000.00
MINDANAO				
MI-B0765	cor. Revolusion & Lopez Jaena Sts., Blasong, Dipolog City	733	-	P3,500,000.00

For further inquiry and prescribed forms, please visit us at 8/F Acquired Assets Administration & Sales Division, PNB Financial Center Roxas Blvd., Pasay City or call us and ask for the following officers:

	Reference No.	Tel. Nos.
Raymond B. Lauraya	MM-B0704; MM-B0748; MM-B0749; MM-B0756 LU-B0758; LU-B0759; LU-B0760; LU-B0763; MI-B0765	573-4333
Chito D. Bustamante	MM-B0755	526-3361
Ronnie T. Antonio	MM-B0752; MM-B0753; MM-B0754; MM-B0757 LU-B0761; LU-B0762; LU-B0764	526-3531

Sealed offer/s to buy must be submitted to the above officers not later than 4:30 P.M., June 21, 2001. The offer/s must be labeled Ref. No. 06/13 & 16/ 2001-AAASD.

The properties are available for sale on cash or installment and on an "As Is, Where Is" basis.

Highest and acceptable bid is subject to approval by the Bank's appropriate approving committee.

PNB reserves the right to withdraw any/or all the properties from the above list any time before the deadline for submission of offers for whatever purposes.

ACQUIRED ASSETS ADMINISTRATION & SALES DIVISION

AUCTION

On the instructions of Kimberly Clark Philippines Inc. Surplus to ongoing business requirements

STEAM BOILER; ABSORBENT COTTON WOOL MANUFACTURING MACHINERY; SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER; STAINLESS STEEL, COPPER ROLLS; ASSTD. SPARE PARTS; ASSTD. CHEMICALS, ETC.

OVER 150 LOTS INCLUDING: -

STEAM BOILER - FOSTER WHEELER Steam generating Boiler Model 623 10T Cap.
ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION - WESTINGHOUSE 5000/5600 KVA 3 Phase; Type RSL; Oil insulated Transformer; SIEMENS Substation Control Cabinet
ABSORBENT COTTON WOOL MANUFACTURING MACHINERY - (2) TA-YOU Type TYF 6060; (3) GERMAN CARDING Machines; FLEISSNER Dryer; Stainless Steel Bleaching Equipment, Incl. Stainless Steel Tanks, Valves, Pumps, etc.; KIER Section Incl. Stainless Steel Tanks, Pipes, etc.; (3) Stainless Steel Hydroextractors; Stainless Steel Autoclave, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS & SCRAPS - Asstd. Large Cap. Valves; Asstd. Copper/Chrome/Engraved/Rubber Coated Rolls; SHINKO Speed Reducers; Asstd. Chain Blocks to 10 Ton Cap.; Stainless Steel Shafting; Asstd. Electric Motors; Filter System; Winch Assemblies; Stainless Steel Pipe; Pipe Connectors; STUART TURNER HAYWARD Large Cap. Pump; SYLVANIA Transformer; Motorized Stainless Steel High Pressure Valve; Asstd. CARDING Machine Assemblies; Fabricated Roll Rack; Stainless Steel Storage Bins; Stainless Steel Sorting Tables, etc.

AT: Kimberly-Clark - United San Pedro Subd., San Pedro, Laguna
ON: Tuesday, 19th June 2001 at 10:30am
ON VIEW: Monday, 18 June 2001, 9:00am - 5:00pm
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php10,000 (Upon Registration)

HENRY BUTCHER
Industrial Auctioneers & Valuers

HENRY BUTCHER & CO. (PHILS.), INC.
102 Ground Floor, Jolliland Building, 570 EDSA, Pasay City
Tel: (63-2) - 852 2910 * 852 2911 Fax: (63-2)-831-9507
E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com
www.henrybutcher.com

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER

The National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce that it will be conducting a bidding on **20 June 2001 at 1:00 PM** at the **FOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER BUILDING FTI Complex, Taguig, Metro Manila**, among NFA accredited government corporations/ institutions and Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) accredited international traders/suppliers for the supply of **minimum 10,000 MT up to maximum of 54,087 MT raw cane or white can refined sugar (fines)** of any specific origin representing the Philippines' minimum access volume (MAV) allocation for the year 2001 which were tendered last 31 May 2001 under the following terms:

1. **SPECIFICATIONS**
   - A. **Raw Cane Sugar (VHP)** - Of fair average quality of the current crop in bulk with Very High Polarization (VHP) minimum of 98.50 degrees/maximum of 99.40 degrees at the time of shipment and inspection at the loadport.
   - B. **White Cane Refined Sugar (fines)** - Minimum polarization of 99.80 degrees, maximum color 45 ICUMSA units and maximum moisture content of 0.06%;
2. **ARRIVAL PERIOD**

ARRIVAL PERIOD	RAW CANE (VHP)	WHITE CANE REFINED (FINES)
NLT July 2001	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.
NLT August 2001	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.
01-15 September 2001	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.	10,000 MT min. 54,087 MT max.

3. **PRICE OFFER**
   Interested offerors are required to submit price offers for raw and/ or white cane refined sugar as per arrival schedule from any specific origin which must be quoted in US$/MT, C F R, F O, based on the following modes of payment:
   1. Irrevocable at sight Letter of Credit
   2. Irrevocable usance Letter of Credit, 180 days after B/L date

All interested bidders including NFA accredited government suppliers (local and foreign) are required to submit a bid bond equivalent to 10% of the total offered price in the form of Cash, Cashier's check, Manager's check, demand draft in USD issued/drawn from a reputable Metro Manila bank or an irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit issued by a reputable bank domiciled in the Philippines valid for 120 days from date of bidding.

Submission of the offer together with the bid bond will be between 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM on the tender date.

Opening of offers will start exactly at 1:00 PM. Only those approved and invited by the Bidding Committee for the supply of raw/refined sugar based on the list of NFA accredited government corporations and international traders/suppliers accredited by the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) are invited to submit sealed tenders.

The pre-bidding conference will be held on 18 June 2001 at 10:00 AM at the **FOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER BUILDING FTI Complex, Taguig, Metro Manila.**

Interested bidders may secure the terms and conditions starting **15 June 2001 (8:00 A.M. - 6:00 PM) from the Foreign Operations Division, Directorate for Marketing Operations, 5th Floor, NFA, Matimyas Bldg., 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City** with telephone numbers 743-8696; 712-1928; 712-1572; 712-1564 and 711-7433.

Bidding documents will be available on **18 June 2001** right after the pre-bidding conference to qualified bidders/offerors upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,000.00.

The National Food Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals, to waive any required formality or defect therein and may accept the bid which is deemed most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **VICENTE V. RACHO**
Chairman, PBAC and
Assistant Administrator

(PDI--June 15, 16 & 17, 2001)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION

The National Housing Authority is inviting offers to lease by way of sealed bids the following commercial and industrial properties on an "As Is - Where Is" basis:

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	BASE PRICE/SQM
001-008	8 Lots with areas ranging 132.55 to 300.77 sq.m.	Phase I-B, Karangalan Village Pasig City	P80.00 - P83.00
009	1 Lot, 4,623.65 sq.m.	Phase III-C (Camino Vecinal Rd.) Karangalan Village, Pasig City	P100.00
010	1 Lot, 10,177 sq.m. with Bldg., 2,692.01 sq.m.	Sapang Palay Resettlement Proj. San Jose del Monte, Bulacan	Land - P3.00 Bldg. - 11.00
011	1 Lot, 7,514 sq.m. with Bldg., 1,512 sq.m.	Dasmariñas Bagong Bayan Resettlement Project, Cavite	Land - P20.00 Bldg. 2 - 10.00

Interested parties may lease one/any or all of the lots offered, details of which may be secured for a non-refundable fee of PhP200.00 from the COINBAC c/o CIED, Mezzanine Floor, NHA Building, Diliman, Quezon City. For inquiry, please call Tel. Nos. 923-0390, 922-3001 & 928-4561 Loc. 302-303.

SCHEDULE

A.	Submission of Pre-Qualification Requirements	- 11 June to 20 June 2001 until 5:00 p.m.
B.	Pre-Bid Conference	- 19 June 2001, 10:00 a.m.
C.	Submission of Sealed Bids	- 22 June 2001, until 12 noon
D.	Opening of Bids	- 22 June 2001, 1:30 p.m.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids offers or any part thereof or to waive any required formalities and accept offers most advantageous to the interest of NHA.

(Sgd.) EDGARDO D. PAMINTUAN
General Manager

(PDI - June 9 & 16 2001)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ANALYST - RESEARCHER

with Writing Skills

- Male preferred—in his 20s
- University graduate and computer literate
- Good in qualitative and quantitative research (interpreting graphs, figures and charts)
- Strong in Statistics and has strong numerical appreciation
- At least 3 years relevant work experience (on data gathering, interpretation of statistical business data, summarizing information, making a forecast and writing a report)
- Good planner, organized and highly focused
- Articulate and highly motivated to work
- Opportunity for overseas training and travel
- Starting salary: competitive package

Send resumé with cover letter, recent photo, sample write-up, and all pertinent information to:

Dempa Asia (Phils.) Inc.
Herrera Tower, Room 2510
98 Herrera Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City
or P.O. Box No. 2225, Makati Central Post Office 1262

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
Official Depository Bank of the Republic of the Philippines

FOURTH (4th) INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID FOR CONTRACT PACKAGE NOS. 12 & 12-A (GROUP 1 & 2): SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CHAIRS

All corporations registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), with extensive experience in the supply and delivery of chairs for office buildings, are invited to apply for pre-qualification, and bidding for Contract Package Nos. 12 &12-A: Supply and Delivery of Chairs (around 1,500 pieces) for the new LBP Headquarters Building in Malate, Manila with the following schedule:

Issuance of Pre-Qualification Form	Pre-Qualification Conference	Issuance of Notices of Pre-qualification/ Pre-disqualification after	Dates of Issuance of Notices of Pre-qualification/ Pre-disqualification	Issuance of Bid Documents	Pre-Bid Conference	Bidding Date
June 18 to 22, 2001 @ 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	June 26, 2001 @ 10:00 AM	a. Evaluation of Pre-qualification Documents and Brochures	July 13, 2001	August 7, 2001 @ 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	August 10, 2001 @ 10:00 AM	August 17, 2001 @ 10:00 AM
		b. Evaluation of Displays versus Brochures	July 27, 2001			
		c. Selection of top choices from the displays by Sub-Committee and Special Committee	August 6, 2001			

All interested Suppliers may obtain the Pre-qualification forms from the LBP Ad Hoc Group Office, c/o Project Management and Engineering Department (PMED), 2F LBP Building III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, upon payment of a non-refundable processing fee of P1,400.00 for the new suppliers (those who did not secure the pre-qualification documents during the first, second and third invitations), and P700.00 for those who have secured/submitted pre-qualification documents during the first, second and third invitations. Only those suppliers who secured the pre-qualification documents shall be eligible to paricipate in the pre-qualification process.

After the pre-qualification conference, Suppliers shall be given three (3) calendar-days to signify in writing their interest to join the pre-qualification process by accomplishing the proforma Letter of Intent (LOI) included in the pre-qualification forms issued earlier. Attendance to the pre-qualification conference is among the requirements for pre-qualification.

Duly accomplished Pre-qualification Forms shall be submitted to and received at the above-stated office not later than July 3, 2001, 3:00 PM, after which no documents will be accepted. All participating suppliers shall be notified in writing of the results of the pre-qualification.

Only pre-qualified suppliers may secure Bid Documents at the above-stated office/date upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00

Pre-Qualification and Pre-Bid Conferences will be held on the above-stated date and time at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2F, LBP Building III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

Bidding shall be conducted using the two (2) envelope system (envelopes "A" and "B") to be submitted to and received not later than 10:00 AM on August 17, 2001 (the Bidding Date). Bidding shall be held at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2F, LBP Building III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

LBP reserves the right to change the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference and bidding date. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBP to pre-qualified bidders.

LBP likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense/loss that they may incur during the preparation of their bids, and to accept the bid that is most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) GILDA E. PICO
Chairman,
Sub-Committee for LBP HQ Building Project

(PDI -- June 16, 17 & 18, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

INVITATION TO BID

Interested suppliers/dealers are invited to pre-qualify and bid for the supply and delivery of Office Supplies for Printing Services (Supreme Court and Lower Courts).

Bids of pre-qualified bidders will be received by the Secretariat Committee on Bids, Supreme Court of the Philippines, Taft Avenue, Manila before 2:00 p.m. on **June 27, 2001**. At said time and date, sealed quotations submitted will be opened publicly by the Committee on Bids at the 2nd floor Centennial Building, Supreme Court.

Interested suppliers/dealers who have not previously pre-qualified during the year 2001 may obtain the necessary pre-qualification requirements from the Secretariat, Committee on Bids, Office of the Administrative Services, Supreme Court, which should be submitted not later than 4:00 p.m. on **June 20, 2001**. Only bids of pre-qualified bidders will be entertained at the time of bidding.

Proposal forms, Terms and Conditions and list of office supplies subject of this particular bidding will be furnished to pre-qualified bidders.

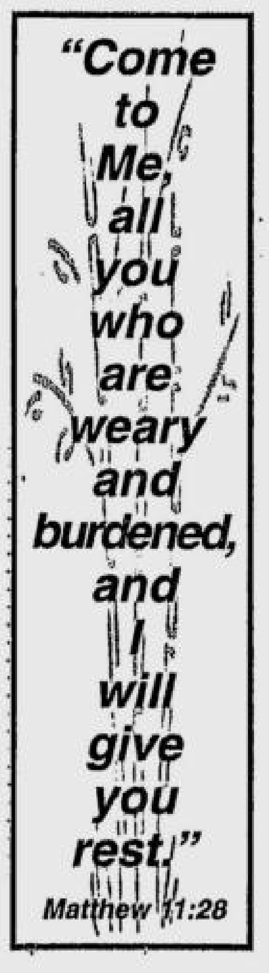
The Committee on Bids reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or informalities therein or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to the government.

June 15, 2001

(Sgd.) **JOSE P. PEREZ**
Chairman
Committee on Bids

(PDI -- June 16, 2001)

OBITUARIES



"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

THE AUGUSTINIAN SISTERS
announce the Death
of

SISTER MARIA CRISTINA GARCIA ROJO, OSA

on June 14, 2001 at the age of 47

Funeral Mass will be on Saturday, June 16, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. at the La Consolacion Convent Chapel, 273 Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila.
Interment will follow at the La Loma Cemetery after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

ERRATUM

In the obituary ad of the late **IRENE REDOBLE CASABAR** published on this paper, yesterday, June 15, 2001 **Simeon Pena Casabar** was inadvertently printed as Simeon Pena Casabay.

Our apologies

Our Dearly Beloved Mommy

NAIDA ORENDAIN CONTI

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 12, 2001.

Her late husband **Vicente H. Conti** (†); loving children and in-laws **Cecille** and **Manny Marañon**; **Carole** and **Kin Sumulong**; **Romulo "Boy"** and **Helen Andal**; **Angie** and **Francis Martinez**; grandchildren **Arvin**, **Tricia**, **Sheryll Marañon**, **Jonathan Sumulong**, **Paolo**, **Angeli**, **Edward**, **Nicolo Conti**, **Gabriel**, **Michael**, **Angelica Martinez**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 17, 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Holy Trinity Chapel.

MANUEL SY DYTOC

Peacefully joined his Creator on June 14, 2001 at the age of 74.

His bereaved wife **Rosa**; children **Paul & Jane**, **Ann**; brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Immaculate Concepcion Parish, Damar Village, Quezon City.

Cremation will be on June 19, 2001 at the Chinese Cemetery after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

CONCEPCION M. LUANSING

November 13, 1918 — June 14, 2001

Her husband **Alejandro**; children **Ella** (†), **Manuel**, **Galicano**, **Marcia** and **Jose**; grandchildren **Antonio** and **Victoria**; **Angelica**, **Leilani**, **Hazel** and **Louella**, **Danilo**, and **J.R.** and **Kyle** request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Chapel D, Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 17, 2001 at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina after the 3:00 p.m Mass.

ATTY. HUMBERTO "Tito" VENADAS POTENCIANO

Peacefully joined his Creator on 14th of June 2001 at the age of 60.

His loving wife **Nene**; children **Ricky**, **Josie**, **Deejay**, **Ronald**, **Erol** and **Laila**; and godly grandchildren, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.
His remains lie in state at the Garden Of Memories, beside Pasig Immaculate Concepcion Parish Church.
Holy Mass will be celebrated on June 17, 2001 (Father's Day) at 2:00 p.m. at the Garden Of Memories.
Interment will follow at the Pasig Catholic Cemetery.

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OBITUARIES

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Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

In Loving Memory

On the 1st Death Anniversary

"Until we see you again Papa in the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ

TAM SUN
(PAM AH POO)

August 1, 1929 – June 16, 2000
Founder of Anros & Sons Enterprises, Inc.
Tanjay City, Negros Oriental

We, his family, together with his dearest wife **Angela**; children and children-in-law **Nilo & Pressy Tam**, **Marilyn & Marcelo Fua**, **Teresita & Jaime See**, **Rowena** (†), **Wilmer & Priscilla Tam**, **Joel & Imelda Tam**, **Henry & Angel Tam**, and **Teresa & Samuel Yap** and all his grandchildren and great grandchildren request the pious readers to remember him in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered in his honor on June 16, 2001 at the following churches:

St. James The Greater Parish Church *Tanjay City, Negros Oriental*	5:45 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.
San Andres The Apostle Parish *Amlan, Negros Oriental*	6:00 a.m.
San Antonio de Padua Parish *Sibulan, Negros Oriental*	6:00 a.m.
St. Catherine de Alexandria Parish *Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental*	5:00 a.m.
Immaculate Concepcion Parish Church *Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental*	5:30 p.m.
Senior San Jose Parish Church *San Jose, Negros Oriental*	6:00 a.m.
St. Nicolas de Tolentino Parish Church *Bais City, Negros Oriental*	6:00 a.m.
St. Francis de Assisi Parish Church *Manjuyod, Negros Oriental*	6:00 a.m.
Mary The Queen Parish *West Greenhills, San Juan*	6:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish *P. Burgos Street, Makati City*	6:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
St. John Bosco (Don Bosco) Parish *Pasay Road, Makati City*	6:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
Christ The King Parish *Greenmeadows, Quezon City*	6:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

"Our father is gone, but his presence and guidance have never left us and we will continue to cherish him for as long as we live. God has our dearly beloved father in HIS keeping, and we have him in our hearts forever."

BINKIE AGUINALDO DATILES

of Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 15, 2001

Her loving family:

Husband	**Larry B. Datiles**
Children	**Angelica Frances (Muffet)** **Roberto Emilio (Chirpy)** **Ana Maria Karla (Lala)**
Parents	**Emilio Aguinaldo, Jr.** (†) and **Maria Tangulan Bautista**
Parents-in-law	**Roberto** (†) and **Loreta Bernaldez Datiles** (†)
Brothers, sisters and their spouses	**Alice** and **Jose P. Dizon** (†) **Achilles** and **Clemencia Mateo Aguinaldo** **Consuelo** and **Rep. Plaridel M. Abaya** **Emilie** and **Danilo V. Pulido** **Vice Mayor Reynaldo** and **Cynthia Gutierrez Aguinaldo**
Brothers- and sisters-in-law and their spouses	**Manuel B. Datiles III** and **Jacqueline Romero** **Therese B. Datiles** **Chelo B. Datiles** and **Rels Octaviano**

nephews, nieces, relatives and friends whose lives she touched with her love, gentleness, kindness and generosity will deeply appreciate prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

We will truly miss her, and we will forever cherish the moments we shared with her.

We love you, *Binkie*.

Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again.

2 Cor. 5:4-5

YAO PING
a.k.a. JULIAN MAGTIBAY YAO

of YP COMMERCIAL COMPLEX
and JC CINEMA

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 13, 2001
at the age of 82.

His bereaved wife **CRISANTA**; children **MARINA** and **DANILO YAO**, **ERLINDA** and **CARLOS GO**, **EVELYN** and **ALFREDO YAO**, **TERESITA** and **ALEXANDER TAN**, **ELIZABETH** and **FERNANDO Y. LEE**; grandchildren, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at La Funeraria Paz, Inc., Araneta Avenue, Kaliraya Street, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, June 19, 2001, 8:00 a.m. at Manila Memorial Cemetery, Dasmariñas Cavite.

LYDIA SARAO-GANDIA

of Imus, Cavite

Died on June 14, 2001

Her loving children **Armilyn (Baby)** and **Agerico Austria**; **Shirley** and **Herminio Esguerra**; grandchildren **Agneli Alexie** and **Allan Aldrich Austria**, **Jayson Martin Esguerra**; brothers **Leonardo**, **Rafael** (†), **Ernesto** and **Eduardo**; sisters **Primitiva Legaspi** (†), **Segunda Virata**, **Elenita Jarin**; nephews, nieces, in-laws and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at her residence at 235 Angel Village, Medeçion 2, Imus, Cavite.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 17, 2001 at Binakayan Cemetery, Kawit Cavite after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Nuestra Sra. Del Pilar Church, Toclong II, Imus, Cavite.

ALICIA MEDROSO-LIM

DIED: 14 JUNE 2001 AT THE AGE OF 64

BEREAVED CHILDREN:	**JING & GLEN** **PAUL & CHATO** **ABBY, JOAN**
GRANDCHILDREN:	**PATRICIA, CARLO,** **ADRIAN, ISABEL,** **ALVARO & MONSERRAT**

FUNERARIA PAZ, CHAPEL E, ARANETA AVENUE, Q.C.

CREMATION IS ON SUNDAY 17 JUNE 2001 at 9:00 AM

EMILIA GUTIERREZ LUCHICO

(Second placer, Pharmaceutical Board Exam, 1935)

*Peacefully joined her Creator and her deceased husband, **Fred G. Luchico** on June 11, 2001, at the age of 89.*

Her bereaved children **Adoracion** and **Jessie de Leon** (†), **Herminia** and **Marcial Salonga**, **Federico, Jr.** and **Teresita Luchico**, **Francisca** and **Roberto Austria**, and **Esperanza** and **Renato Garcia**; grandchildren **Christian**, **Nene** and **Noel**, **Csan** and **Hermie**, **Frank**, **Mark**, **Tida**, **Tancis**, **Rico Boy**, **Lucas**, **Michael**, **Joy**, **Emily**, **Angeli** and **Mon**, **Rhena**, **Renato, Jr.** and **Valerie**; great grandchildren **Jekjek** and **Angel**, other relatives and special family friend, **Dr. Alfredo Paspe** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at her residence at Avocado Lane, F.E.U. Village, Barangay Mambugan, Antipolo City. Interment will be on Sunday, June 17, 2001, 2:00 P.M. at Heavens Gate Memorial Park Phase II, Barangay San Juan, Antipolo City.

SCIENCE /HEALTH

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor ■ STELLA O. GONZALES, Assistant Editor

Dengue wreaks havoc on very young kids

BY TESSA R. SALAZAR

Dengue appears to gravitate toward Filipino children. Statistics from the Department of Health reveal that the viral disease is zeroing in its sting on those aged 1 to 9 years.

"Our data show that children from 1 to 9 years old are the ones infected, so most likely these are the children in the schools," said Dr. Eric Tayag, director of the DOH National Center for Disease Prevention and Control.

The DOH is focusing its dengue prevention program in schools because these are considered critical dengue areas, said Tayag.

Last Wednesday, the DOH went to Las Piñas to receive the Rotary Club's donation of videotapes on how to recognize and prevent dengue among schoolchildren. The tapes will be distributed nationwide.

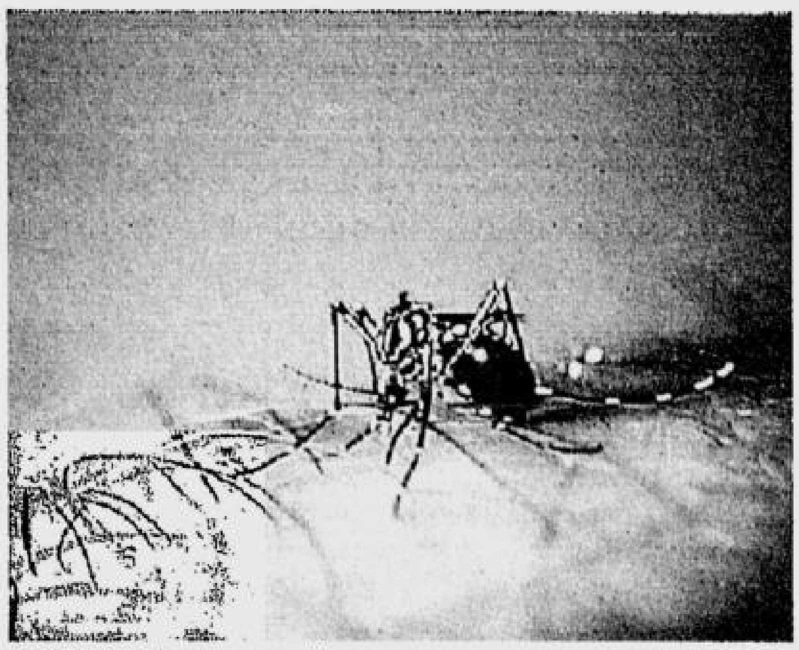
From Jan. 1 to June 8, there were 28 dengue-caused deaths nationwide. Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said that the case fatality rate was highest among those aged 40 and above. The regions with the highest case fatality rates were Northern Mindanao, Central Mindanao and Caraga.

The DOH also revealed that 3,372 cases nationwide have been admitted in sentinel hospitals nationwide from Jan. 1 to June 8. This is 53 percent higher than during the same period last year.

Dayrit warned that the figure is likely to increase "if we do not make the necessary prevention."

The highest number of cases came from Central Visayas, with 985. Metro Manila was next with 917 cases. Of the Metro Manila cases, 215 were from Manila, 136 from Quezon City and 122 from Valenzuela.

Balut, Tondo was identified as a hotspot. The DOH has already notified Manila Mayor Lito Atienza after noting that the area has had increasing cases for two consecutive weeks now. Entomologic surveys in the area were recommended to detect mosquito-breeding sites.



AEDES, the dengue mosquito

The DOH, in its National Objectives for Health, stated that the cases are higher in urban communities. In 1998, the surveillance sentinel sites in Metro Manila, Central Luzon, and Central and Eastern Visayas reported a higher number of cases than the rest of the country.

The DOH said that although the disease affects all ages, the most vulnerable are children up to 15 years old. The DOH further noted that both sexes are equally affected and that the cases are more frequent during the rainy season.

"We anticipate this may be another bad year for dengue after 1998 because dengue is a three-year cycle," Tayag said.

The DOH said the primary and secondary dengue mosquito vectors in the Philippines are the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. These mosquitoes breed in clear, stagnant water in storage tanks, cisterns, flower vases and backyard litter.

"We encourage communities and families to clean up surroundings," said Tayag.

Local governments are encouraged to conduct community cleanup campaigns, as the DOH stressed that fogging has not been an effective method because it only kills adult mosquitoes.

"Empty bottles, old tires, roof gutters, tin cans, or any receptacles where water can be collected and stored," stated the DOH.

Dengue manifests itself initially with fever and other nonspecific symptoms that may progress to severe symptoms such as bleeding, circulatory failure and shock. The disease has no known treatment and the case management is limited to supportive therapy like intravenous fluids and paracetamol.

By 2004, the DOH aims to have reduced the rate of dengue hemorrhagic fever to 20 cases per 100,000 population. (The baseline had been 32 cases per 100,000 in 1994.)

By that time, it would also have reduced the case fatality rate of dengue hemorrhagic fever to less than one percent (baseline was 2 percent in 1998) and decrease the number of dengue outbreaks to less than 10 a year (baseline was 12 outbreaks recorded in 1998).

Fast facts about dengue

- Dengue is a mosquito-borne infection that has become a major international public health concern.
- Dengue fever is a severe flu-like illness. Symptoms vary according to age. Infants and young children may be asymptomatic or have undifferentiated fever and rash. Older children and adults are more likely to have severe symptoms including high fever that starts quickly, sometimes with two peaks, and/or severe headache, pain behind the eyes, muscle and joint pains, nausea and vomiting and rash.
- Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) is a life threatening complication of dengue characterized by high fever lasting two to seven days, hemorrhagic phenomena (including vascular leakage of plasma), low numbers of platelets and sometimes circulatory failure.
- There are four viruses that cause dengue (DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4). Recovery from infection by one type provides lifelong immunity against only that serotype. It is believed that sequential infection from one dengue virus to another increases the risk of developing the more serious DHF.
- Dengue viruses are transmitted to humans through bites of infective female *Aedes* mosquitoes. These mosquitoes acquire the virus while feeding on the blood of an infected person.
- The virus circulates in the blood of infected humans for two to seven days, at approximately the same time as they have fever. *Aedes* mosquitoes may acquire the virus when they feed on an individual at this time.
- Once infected, a mosquito is capable of transmitting the virus to susceptible individuals for the rest of its life, during probing and blood feeding.
- Infected female mosquitoes may also transmit the virus to the next generation of mosquitoes via its eggs.
- No dengue vaccine is available. Possible vaccines are being developed in Thailand. Trials in human volunteers have yet to start. An effective dengue vaccine for public use will not be available for five to 10 years yet. ***World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention***

AIDS in RP: A layperson's guide

(Second of four parts)

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

LAST week we discussed some common myths and misconceptions about AIDS, including my own erroneous ideas when this disease struck a friend's mother. Now we explore in depth what AIDS means, and how it wreaks havoc on our health.

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. "Acquired" means that any human can contract it. "Immune deficiency" denotes a weakness in the immune system, that is, a weakness in our body system which fights diseases. "Syndrome" consists of a group of health problems that make up a particular disease. A normal healthy body should be able to fight infection, especially with the aid of drugs. A person with AIDS (PWA) is steadily stripped of natural defenses. AIDS weakens the body so much that it becomes extremely vulnerable to infection. Symptoms of HIV include spiking fever, night sweats, headache, sore muscles and joints, stomach ache, swollen lymph glands, skin rashes, diarrhea, general fatigue.

AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV—the human immunodeficiency virus. (Chillingly, another strain of HIV has also been identified—HIV 2, which is still relatively rare outside of Africa.) Remember high school biology? If a virus (like HIV) gets into the body, the system will try to fight the infection, and in the process, produce special molecules called antibodies, which are supposed to fight the virus. In fact, this is the idea behind HIV-testing. When someone gets screened for HIV, the blood test is actually looking for these antibodies. If they are present, it means that HIV has already infected the system, and this person is considered "HIV-Positive."

I would like to emphasize here that being HIV-positive is not exactly the same as having AIDS. A lot of people are HIV-positive, but remain healthy for many years—especially if they were fit to start with. This brings to mind one of the most celebrated HIV cases in the world—former NBA star Earvin "Magic" Johnson, who despite having been diagnosed as HIV-positive several years ago, still appears to be symptom-free now.

However, appearances can often be deceiving. Even when the person appears fine, the virus hides in the lymph tissue, multiplying there and damaging the immune system. As the HIV disease progresses, the immune system weakens. Any foreign invaders (parasites, bacteria, fungi, and other viruses)—even those that do not otherwise damage healthy systems—would relentlessly battle the body even more, and lead to infections. For health buffs, the precise term for these is "opportunistic infections." The most common opportunistic infections are pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma (a form of skin cancer), candida (a fungal infection usually affecting the mouth), tuberculosis, herpes, cytomegalovirus (an eye infection), and so on.

Before 1993, the medically accepted criterion for classifying AIDS is the presence of an opportunistic infection. That is, once the immune system is targeted by any of these, HIV disease is considered AIDS. Aside from the symptoms of HIV mentioned above, PWAs normally undergo serious weight loss, brain tumors, and other health problems related to the opportunistic infections they contract. And in my capacity as a clinical psychologist, what I consider even more tragic is the mental consequences of AIDS. The brains of many PWAs deteriorate as HIV invades the system (a condition called encephalopathy). These PWAs lose their cognitive functions, become disoriented and increasingly confused, and sometimes develop seizures or muteness. Many eventually lapse into a coma.

Moreover, over time, as these opportunistic infections worsen, certain cells (CD4+ or T-helper cells) decrease. That is, HIV destroys the T-helper cells that regulate the immune system. Healthy people have anywhere from 500 to 1,500 of these cells in a milliliter of blood. In 1993, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that a significant marker of the change from HIV to AIDS is when the immune system becomes so ravaged that T-helper cells number less than 200.

When did AIDS first appear on the scene? Though it cannot be conclusively proven, many scientists believe that HIV first occurred in monkeys (which were immune), but somehow the virus "jumped into" humans. And even if many researchers believe that AIDS already appeared as early as the 1950s, the first official cases of AIDS were diagnosed in 1981. It took two years for scientists in France's Pasteur Institute and the US National Institutes of Health to separately discover its cause—HIV. A year later, a blood test for detecting HIV became available.

Once AIDS burst into world consciousness, statistics began to boggle the mind—and heart. According to the United Nations and the World Health Organization, as of last year, 18.8 million people around the world have already died because of AIDS-related diseases—and 3.8 million of them were children. In one year alone (1999), 5.4 million people became infected with HIV. The most heartbreaking (and widely quoted) figure is a Unicef estimate that six young people become infected with HIV every minute.

No country is immune. AIDS has claimed the lives of more than a million people in the United States, and in Thailand, the disease has spread widely in the last two decades of the 20th century. Right now, many experts believe that the worst instances are in Africa, where a significant proportion of the population has succumbed to the disease. (Given the parameters, how can anyone remain detached? A few months ago, Time ran a cover story on AIDS in Africa, which graphically illustrated the effects of this epidemic on that continent. My students were so disturbed by the article that we interrupted our science class to reflect on this phenomenon.)

How about AIDS in the Philippines? Official figures vary—though not by much. As of December 2000, most figures place the number of actual (reported) HIV cases to be approximately 1,400. (However, some projected estimates put the number as high as 40,000—because of the reluctance of many infected people to report their case.) Because of these low reported figures, the Philippines has been deemed to be one of the lowest-prevalence countries—an incidence of less than one percent of the population, as we discussed last week.

However, this optimistic picture is colored by the fact that every year, the number of reported cases increase. According to the DOH registry, from 1984 to 1987, only 100 cases were recorded, compared to 190 new ones in 1998 alone. Seventy percent of all infections were found in the 19-to-49 age group, with heterosexual contact as the main mode of transmission. The disease also cuts across gender lines, almost at the middle, which means practically half the PWAs are male, and the other half female. Some sectors of the population are particularly vulnerable. Aside from sex workers and unprotected homosexuals, research has shown that overseas Filipino workers are at high risk. With cognitive factors such as misconceptions and misinformation about the causes of AIDS, psychological ones such as loneliness and homesickness, and economic ones such as becoming sex workers or forced sex with employers abroad, many of them have already been infected, comprising as much as 25 percent of all national reported cases,

Thus, we should not become complacent about dealing with AIDS. On the other hand, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge that one of the reasons our country has a relatively low prevalence and incidence compared to other nations is the commendably prompt and consistent effort of our government and other groups in combating HIV/AIDS. AIDS became known worldwide only in the early 1980s, but as early as 1987, the DOH had already established the AIDS registry. Several activities ensued—a National AIDS Prevention and Control Program, a National HIV Sentinel Surveillance, bilateral agreement of AIDS Surveillance and Education (with the United States), among others. Groups such as the Pinoy Plus, an organization of people with HIV/AIDS in the Philippines (with their motto, Positive Living Through Utmost Support and Services), *Bahay Lingap*, a halfway house of asymptomatic HIV Positive Filipinos, the AIDS Society of the Philippines, Remedios AIDS, Women's AIDS and a whole host of other organizations have steadily burgeoned—to increase awareness, prevention and compassion for this disease. In fact, a cursory search of the Web reveals that many individuals have volunteered time, effort and resources to help not only loved ones but also strangers cope with AIDS.

In 1992, Executive Order 39 created the Philippine National AIDS Council. In 1996, Proclamation 888 declared 1997 as National AIDS Prevention Year. Our government also cemented ties with other countries (such as the European Union, Japan, and our Southeast Asian neighbors) in valiant collaborative efforts. In 1997, the International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific was held here. In retrospect, the climax of all this activity was inevitable—in 1998, Republic Act 8504 came into being. Formally titled the AIDS Prevention and Control Act, it is more popularly known as the "AIDS Law."

The AIDS Law is considered by the United Nations to be a landmark piece of legislation, and is the product of joint effort by several sectors of Philippine society. What accounts for this accolade? Next week we delve into the provisions and ramifications of the AIDS Law, which every concerned citizen should be aware of. ***(Next week: The AIDS Law)***

The case of the choking paralysis: A rejoinder

BY RAFAEL CASTILLO, MD

MEDICAL FILES

I GET a modest heap of letters and e-mail messages all of which truly warm my heart knowing that some have been regularly following the stories that we share in this column. One particular letter, which touched me, was that sent by Mr. Perfecto "Pyke" Alibadbad of San Pedro, Laguna, who has a progressive paralysis due to Amyotropic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). He wrote...

Dear Doc Raffy,

Thank you very much for featuring my case in your column in the PDI issue of May 12. It was most enlightening and I hope those afflicted with ALS would find solace knowing that the medical world is still researching for the cure to this disease.

I hope that other medical societies and support organizations, especially those to whom I have sent inquiries, would help. It is not so much what they could offer but what we could share to help each other to alleviate our suffering. This reminds me of that beautiful song, "People who need people are the luckiest people in the world." I would want to hear of volunteer groups that could initiate meetings of Patients with ALS (PALS), for an exchange of experiences, or even just to know each other, and be united to solicit assistance from concerned institutions.

Hopefully, the group can also get funds from Congress for medical research like in the United States. What is important is for patients afflicted with this crippling disease to bond together. So together, we can hope against hope.

Your article last Saturday was indeed a blessing and it has lifted my spirits. Would you believe that the following day (Sunday), I was surprised to be visited by a couple who had read it the day before. They filled me with so much encouragement and hope. They never talked of religion but only of one Omnipotent God who wills everything. I did not know them personally, but they went out of their way to find me to offer their comforting words. Before they left, they prayed over me. I was so touched by their gesture and kindness that I could not contain my profuse tears and sobbing, characteristic of emotional liability due to ALS.

They introduced themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Ortiz who live some three villages away. I was so grateful and impressed with their kindness; I could only watch them walk away as my legs would not allow me to walk them to the gate.

Then because of your article, I was also visited by another couple-friend from the far end of our village, after they cast their votes last Monday. They wondered why I had not been going to church.

Thank you very much, Doc. You are the kind of people who make every day worth living and looking forward to.

More power and God bless.

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Pyke must have made a big effort to type this letter, considering that the crippling effect of his ALS has crept into every muscle cell of his body. As he wrote in his first letter, he types on the computer keyboard standing, using his right thumb, assisted by his left hand and with the power of gravity, press on every letter. That was two months ago. Now apparently, he has grown weaker, as he can no longer walk to the gate as he used to do every morning, hoping that there's something in the mail for him, from the medical societies and support groups he writes to, or from good Samaritans like Mr. and Mrs. Ortiz.

A lot of times, we take it for granted that we can breathe freely, enjoy good food and drinks, walk leisurely through 18 holes of golf, and snore our way to dreamland in our sleep. Pyke has to coax his respiratory muscles to allow enough air to reach his lungs; he eats blended food, and very slowly at that since he even chokes with his own saliva when swallowing. A walk in the village park is a big event; and getting a few hours of uninterrupted sleep is a great blessing.

Patients with ALS certainly need a lot of courage and faith to endure all their sufferings caused by the disease. The medical frontier for ALS still looks hazy and we still can't see clearly what lies in store in the horizon. The positive attitude shown by Pyke is truly admirable. While many of us complain a lot over the slightest pains and aches, patients like Pyke maintain their healthy disposition; their faith in God remains undiminished; their stories of hope unabridged; and their enthusiasm for life never subsiding.

Doctors learn lessons from patients and I just learned one from Pyke.

(Medical Files is based on the case histories of actual patients. Apart from the medical information, it stresses the socio-psychological impact of disease on the patient. Dr. Castillo is a past president of the Philippine Heart Association/Philippine College of Cardiology. Mail comments or inquiries to Room 601, Medical Arts Center, Manila Doctors' Hospital, T.M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila, or e-mail raffymd@i-manila.com.ph.)

SCISCOPE

Know more about arthritis

IN CONTINUING celebration of the Bone and Joint Decade, free lay forums are being conducted to spread awareness about arthritis. This is made possible through the Arthritis Care and Research Foundation Inc. (Arthritis CaRe) owing to an educational grant from Pharmacia and Pfizer. It is being offered to companies, subdivisions and villages. These lay forums aim to effectively proliferate information for lay education, endeavoring to reach patients who have arthritis or suspect they may be experiencing related symptoms. Free medical consultations will be made available during the event. Medicine will also be given away. To qualify for a lay forum conducted within your community or office, there must be at least 100 confirmed registrants. For further details, call up the organizing committee at 892-7838 or 815-1260 and look for Amiel, Karl or Joy.

Acupuncture training course

THE PHILIPPINE-CHINA Development Resource Center and the Philippine Center for Traditional and Asian Medicine, in cooperation with the Nanjing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, are holding a five-day advanced acupuncture training course from June 18 to 22 at the Philippine Social Science Center on Commonwealth Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City. Two Chinese acupuncturists will be the guest lecturers. A limited number of patients who wish to consult and seek acupuncture treatment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis at 1-4 p.m. from June 18 to 22. For further inquiries, call up the PDRC office at 928-2661 and 928-2631, or send e-mail to pubres@philonline.com.ph.

How to avoid infected, smelly feet

ATHLETE'S foot (tinea pedis) is a fungal infection common among teenagers and adults. To avoid athlete's foot, always keep your feet clean and dry, avoid walking barefoot in locker rooms or bathing areas, always wear clean, dry socks and ventilated shoes, and use Canesten Foot Powder, from Canesten, the most prescribed OTC antifungal brand. Canesten Foot Powder contains clotrimazole that effectively kills and prevents the growth of fungi. Clotrimazole, the active ingredient in Canesten Foot Powder, has a deodorizing effect that prevents sweat from giving out unpleasant smell. It is available in all leading drugstores nationwide.

Int'l cancer expert here for seminar

INTERNATIONAL cancer expert Prof. Wang Zhen Guo is in Manila for a three-day visit to conduct his third seminar-workshop in treating and dealing with cancer. The seminar will be held at Room C of the Philippine Trade Training Center, Roxas Boulevard corner Buendia Avenue, Manila, on June 24 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wang is president of China's Anticancer Association of Jilin Province, president of the Chang Bai Shan Institute of Medicine, medical researcher of China's Ministry of Public Health, and the inventor of the China No. 1 Super Tian Xian Liquid—touted as one of the latest herbal alternatives to combat terminal cancer cases. To register for the said seminar, call 415-8714, 781-0069, 781-9370.

Pru Life U.K. GETS LOUD

PRU CHALLENGE 2001

Pru Life U.K. salutes the qualifiers
to the Pru Challenge 2001
mid-year convention in Cebu City

Top 5 Producers

Maria Isabel Cokai
China Jade

Ariel Rosales
Garnet

Edwin C. Gocuan
Blue Pearl

Gilbert Chua
Blue Pearl

Ma. Cherrie Y. Tan
Blue Pearl
Master Club Awardee

Producer Level

Gwendolyn Pardo
Blue Pearl

Jo-an Chua
Amethyst

Pedro Lim
China Jade

Wila Bahod
Garnet

Belen Aritao
Ruby

Marie Dakay
Blue Pearl

Anthonette Mahinay
Blue Pearl

Lolita Tan Eng Sy
Blue Pearl

Irene Yu
Blue Pearl

Juliet Kintanar
Blue Pearl

Cristina Go
China Jade

Veronica Sun
Jasper

Debbie Borromeo
Blue Pearl

Steve Sy
China Jade

Maria Teresa Gallego
Blue Pearl

Henson Tan
China Jade

Melchor Uy
China Jade

Belinda Patalinjug
Blue Pearl

Conchita Tan
Amethyst

Ana Tang
China Jade

Katherine Yap
Blue Pearl

Juliet Ku
Amethyst

Aurelio Cifra
Jasper

Paul Bosleng
Garnet

Albert Yung
Chrysolite

Peter Delatorre
Blue Pearl

Edgar Canlas
Blue Sapphire

Dennis De Guia
Diamond

Connie Bayaborda
Jasper

Eduardo Ramirez
Blue Sapphire

Raul Roldan
Gold

Jocelyn Lao
Amethyst

Matea Bitong
Diamond

Imelda Lu
Ruby

Jerry Ng
China Jade

Jeromy Tan
China Jade

Gina San Jose
Tektite

Dolly Jane Bok
Blue Pearl

Severiano Co
Blue Pearl

Juanita Ong
Blue Pearl

Leonides Peña
Garnet

Nancy Ampaguey
Garnet

Lourdes Yap
Blue Pearl

Carlito Tiu
China Jade

Cornelio Pahang
Blue Pearl

Francis Albaña
Blue Pearl

Loreta Chio
China Jade

Salvacion Mojares
Blue Pearl

Jacinto Tan
Blue Pearl

Artemio Wapanio
Blue Pearl

Lulu Garcia
Ruby
2000 President's Circle Awardee

Unit Level

Jaime Barba
Blue Pearl

Katherine Yap
Blue Pearl

Edwin Gocuan
Blue Pearl

Branch Level

Henry Gocuan
Blue Pearl

Hue Hun Koa
China Jade

Rina Siacunco
Garnet

George Buncayo
Jasper

Myrna Galban
Ruby

Conchita Tan
Amethyst

Franz Canlas
Blue Sapphire

Cheryl Lynn Martinez
Diamond

Niceno Macabuag
Tektite

PRU LIFE U.K.
WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN

Congratulations!

MDRT QUALIFIERS

Steve Sy
China Jade

Debbie Borromeo
Blue Pearl

Katherine Yap
Blue Pearl

Henson Tan
China Jade

Jose Jeff Damayo
Blue Pearl

Nellie King
China Jade

Message

We have all the right reasons to get loud!

In spite of the difficult environment we operate in, your performance continues to register improvements over previous records; your numbers, too, have consistently increased over the years. This conference alone has produced almost double the qualifiers of 2000.

The company is growing at speeds that we could not have imagined possible. In fact, our figures last year show that we grew 4 times faster than industry. The truth can now be told - Pru Life UK is a force to reckon with.

But more than the numbers and financial assets, more than anything else, it is you, the human force of Pru Life UK that continues to fuel the energy behind all this. I give you the loudest applause for being part of Pru Life's crème de la crème.

I likewise applaud the Men and Women of the Pru who have made it to the Million Dollar Round Table. Being the first batch of homegrown qualifiers, you are a source of inspiration to the others in the team. Keep up your good work. We are all so proud of you!

The first half of the year is over but the promise remains: we are going beyond all limits. Join me and let's enjoy the ride.

Congratulations to all of you!

Bobby G. Madrid
President & CEO
PRU LIFE UK

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Treat of the Week

Mango Cream Magic

1 large or 2 small ripe mangoes
1 170g can NESTLÉ CREAM combined with
2 tbsps. calamansi juice
2 egg whites
1/2 cup sugar
cubed mango, optional

Purée mango cheeks or pass through sieve until smooth. Fold in NESTLÉ CREAM and calamansi juice. Set aside. Beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Gradually add sugar and continue beating until stiff but not dry. Fold in puréed mango mixture and cubed mango, if desired. Freeze until firm.

Watch out for next week's fruity treat!

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2001 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER C1

Saturday SPECIAL

NESTOR U. TORRE, Editor EDMUND L. SICAM, Associate Editor

Ishmael Bernal, way back when

BERNAL. Host with the most.

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

AS I waited at Malacañang's Ceremonial Hall for the 2001 National Artists to be proclaimed last June 13, my thoughts flashed back to the late '60s, when I first met our new laureate for film, Ishmael Bernal.

Hangout

No, it wasn't at a film event. I was rushing one night to meet my friends at *the* artists' hangout in those days, Indios Bravos on Mabini st. in Malate, Manila, when a hand reached out of the door of another club, and yanked me inside.

ISHMAEL/P. C2

Beauty starts with a hot water bath.

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and load up on Hershey's Chocolate Milk Drink today!

DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0426, Series of 2001.

SORIANO AND PASCUAL. Play educator and waiter, respectively.

PICACHE. Cast as a mother who tries to force her daughter into prostitution.

Finally, a local film about a teacher

By Veron Dionisio

A TEACHER'S influence is immeasurable, and yet, society tends to neglect its power. The teaching profession remains one of the most underpaid and underappreciated in this country.

Lack of interest

Reflective of this mindset is the seemingly lack of interest among local filmmakers to pay tribute to this important vocation or to bring into focus the issues surrounding the plight of our teachers.

The Filipino film industry has yet to come up with a memorable film about teachers and the pervasive role they play in our society. While Hollywood has such unforgettable films as "Stand and Deliver," "To Sir With Love," "Mr. Holland's Opus" and even "Dangerous Minds," which all effectively tackle the multidimensional and influential place of teachers in the lives of the youth, our film producers continually overlook the rich dramatic material behind the lives of "ordinary" school teachers in our educational system.

A teacher's life, unlike some other professions, crosses boundaries. Anybody who values education and aspires for social mobility through the acquisition of basic skills and knowledge has studied under a teacher.

Guidance

For the fortunate ones, this person could be the one to provide guidance and assurance in the most turbulent times, teach them not just to survive but also how to live, and make them realize their self-worth as they find meaning in their lives.

But the long wait is finally over. For film director Joel Lamangan, it's about time that we pay attention to the problems and issues concerning the lives of our schoolteachers. "We thought this is the right time that their conditions are shown, their problems heard, their concerns addressed," he declares.

Lamangan refers to his latest project, "Mila," produced by Star Cinema, written by Ricky Lee and topbilled by Maricel Soriano, who plays a teacher who, in the course of her search for the truth about herself, inevitably touches the lives of the people she meets.

The cast includes Piolo Pascual who plays Primo, the waiter Mila falls in love with after she separates from her husband; Cherrie Pie Picache as a prostitute and mother of a teenage daughter; Angelica Panganiban as the daughter, who draws inspiration from Mila when she is forced by her mother into prostitution.

Photo

"Mila" is inspired by the story of Anita Pamintuan, a schoolteacher who was found dead under a tree in Ermita more than 10 years ago. Ricky Lee saw the photo in a newspaper and the image of Anita's lifeless body lingered in his mind. This prompted him to conduct further research because he had long been planning to write a script about schoolteachers.

He peddled the story to a number of producers back in 1992 but the project never materialized. The reason: the material was deemed too dark, therefore not commercial enough.

Lee reveals: "Producers never really consider the life of a teacher as potential film material. For one, *hindi raw* colorful *ang buhay nila.* But when we finally found the material *na medyo may* commercial appeal, *yung kay* Anita Pamintuan *nga, tigas naman ng pagtanggi nila. May isang* producer *na pumayag pero* after a while, *nag*-backout *din. Ang sabi niya, ang lungkut-lungkot naman ng buhay ng* teacher *na 'yan!"*

When the film on Anita Pamintuan was first planned in the early 1990s, Nora Aunor was considered for the role. However, since no producers would want to gamble on it, the material joined Lee's other unproduced scripts. Until Star Cinema recently ventured into making more worthy films like box-office hits "Tanging Yaman," and "Anak."

Strength

Lee acknowledges Maricel Soriano's willingness to be "deglamorized" in the film and stresses that her strength as an actress lies in her ability to assume the role of somebody who lives an ordinary life.

Maricel says that this film has changed her conventional views about teachers. It has made her realize how difficult the job of a teacher is. It also validates the belief that learning is not confined to the classroom. That wherever we are, there will always be opportunities to learn.

At this point in her career, Maricel is interested in portraying roles that tackle significant social concerns. "*Siguro naman,* after all these years, we're now at the stage where *kailangan may kabuluhan na rin ang mga pelikula sa lipunan,*" she intones.

THE spectacular mob scene in Bernal's "Himala" with Nora Aunor as the faith healer.

Ishmael Bernal . . .

(From page C1)

When I had gotten my bearings, I realized that my abductor was the owner of When It's A Grey November in Your Soul, a smaller café for artists that had opened just a few days before.

He introduced himself as Ishmael Bernal, and candidly admitted that he had decided to resort to the rather abrupt invitation that had just transpired because he was having a hard time competing with the bigger, older and more established Indios.

Fun alternative

Bernie was such a droll kidnapper that his victims didn't mind being coerced into sampling his little boite. It soon became a fun alternative to the more self-conscious Indios, where the plum accolade was being invited by the place's resident artistic doyennes and gurus to sit at the prized center table.

Alas, or happily, Bernie's place was too small to have a center table, so its arrangements were much more democratic or socialistic, or communistic—whatever!

Idiosyncratic persona

At Grey November, the "center table" was wherever Bernie happened to be—which, given his butterfly proclivities as the host with the most (PR), was *everywhere*.

Bernie had to do a lot of PR-ing at the start, since his place didn't really have much to offer, aside from his idiosyncratic persona.

Soon, however, the place became "in" due to the colorful regulars it started to draw. So, people went to Grey November to politely gawk at the movie people and artists who had decided to make it their semi-private club.

It had to be *semi*-private because its regulars were glittering, alright, but they didn't really have much money, so the place needed the income supplied by the less glamorous but more financially solvent gawkers and members of the peanut gallery.

Readings

Later, Grey November became even more popular when Bernie started holding little readings of difficult plays featuring celebrated thespians like Tita Muñoz, who was Philipine theater's Elizabeth Taylor at the time.

The plays were fiercely recondite and inaccessible, but everyone had a great time watching them and holding forth with their complex-compound interpretations after they had been performed.

So, the once struggling Grey November finally came into its own. But Bernie eventually decided to give it up because the movies beckoned.

This was after he had studied film in India, and apprenticed with *the* Lamberto V. Avellana at Documentary, Inc. ***(To be continued)***

Robin Padilla fulfills ambition in 'Buhay Kamao'

By Jocelyn Valle

ONE of Robin Padilla's earliest ambitions was to become a pugilist, just like his uncles Carlos and Jose Padilla. He is particularly proud of the latter's Olympian (Los Angeles, 1932) endeavor.

Robin had first taste of boxing while he was growing up in Baguio City. "*Sa mga piyestahan*," recalls the action star with a chuckle. "*Boksing-bata lang, kaya walang panalo o talo.*"

But all too soon, tragedy struck: the sparring partner of his elder brother Royette died. "*Nag-i-*spar *sila araw-araw*," he recounts. "One day, *kumakain sila, tapos sumakit ang ulo niya. Nag-*throw up *tapos namatay. Hindi na natuloy ang pagboboksing ni* Royette."

Robin changed his mind, too, and shifted his sights to the other Padilla legacy—acting. At 31, the erstwhile bad boy of Philippine movies is once again one of show biz's most popular and bankable stars. And he's fulfilling one of his earliest ambitions in his latest movie, "Buhay Kamao."

Robin has nothing to do with the film's concept, though. "*Mula nang mag-*sign *ako sa* Viva," he points out, "*'di na ako nakialam sa* story *at saka sa* look ng *pelikula. Kung may* suggestion *man ako*, suggestion *lang 'yon. Tama naman sila. Tatlong taon akong nakulong*, kaya *'di ko na alam kung ano ang uso.*"

The great success of last year's "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw" sealed Robin's complete trust in Vic del Rosario's multimedia company. He feels extra confident because in "Buhay Kamao," he's again working with the blockbuster director of the moment, Joyce Bernal, and he's co-starring with sweet-turned-sexy Rica Peralejo for the first time.

Allusions

Throw in some allusions to Hollywood pictures "Raging Bull" and "The Boxer," and you've got the middle class, or maybe even the A-B crowd trooping to the theaters. But except for the boxing scenes and a few dramatic touches, Robin warns us not to expect facsimiles of Robert de Niro's and Daniel Day-Lewis' starrers in Viva Films' Independence Day offering.

"Pinoy *pa rin ang* story," he asserts, adding that "Buhay Kamao" is more of a drama movie than an action flick. Based on the bits and pieces that Robin has shared with us, plus a quick review of Bernal's past works, we get his point.

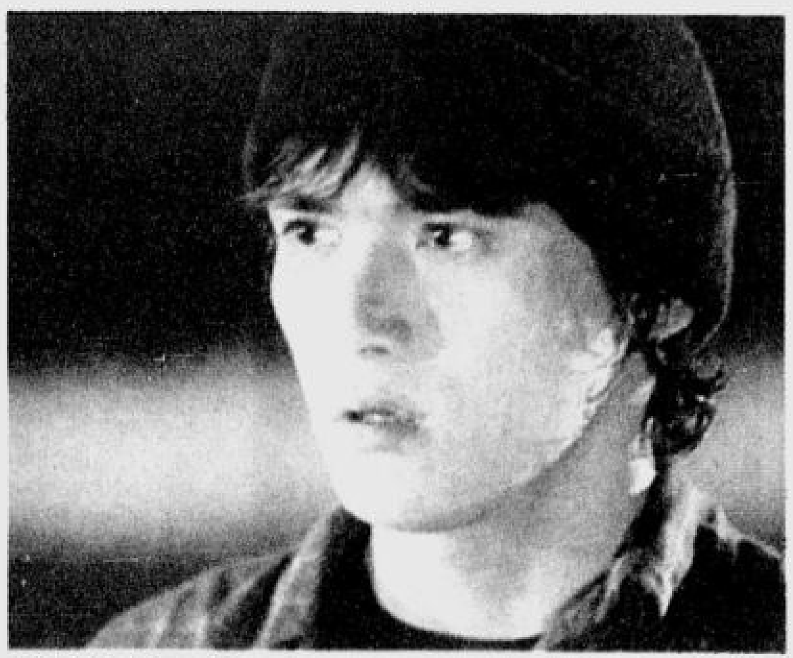
In the opening scene, Pepe's (Robin) brother (played by Royette) is killed in the ring by a heftier and better boxer (David Bunevacz). Pepe is a prizefighter, too. People love him because he always wins his fights.

Eventually, though, he sells out, and loses the public's trust and his confidence. To redeem himself, he faces the ultimate opponent—the one who claimed his brother's life.

Robin makes it clear that Pepe isn't avenging his brother's death. "*Ayaw namin ni Direk* Joyce *na i-*encourage *ang* revenge," he maintains, informing us instead that the movie compares life to boxing.

"*Punong-puno tayo ng* challenges," he elucidates. "*Dapat hindi tayo sumusuko. Maaring 'di mo suot ang* gloves *pero nakikipagboksing ka. Paggising mo sa umaga tapos ayaw mong bumangon kahit may trabaho ka—boksing 'yan. Nakikipagboksing ka sa sarili mo.*"

ROBIN/ p.C4


PADILLA. More drama than action.

Spend a cool night with Lou Bonnevie at the Republic

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

LOU Bonnevie's recent concert "Cool Nights at the Republic" (Kuh Ledesma's Republic of Malate) where the pop artist rendered favorite tunes from the '80s was a real treat. It featured the guest appearances of Barbie, Cynthia Alexander, Cookie Chua, Scarlet and other celebrity friends doing acoustic, blues, rock 'n' roll and soul music.

Soul

I particularly liked Cynthia Alexander next to Lou, for singing jazz with so much soul. She is the sister of Joey Ayala and is being managed by Apa Ongpin. Tonight is the last night of their performance at the Republic of Malate. Great show!

Bonnevie used to sing while doing household chores when she was a kid in Bicol. She liked performing at family gatherings, because her relatives gave toys and money to show their appreciation.

Her mother used to hang out with Lucille Lavidez, a famous jazz and torch singer and a comtemporary of Pilita Corrales. Lou suspects she got her performing genes from her mom.

At 12, Lou got bored singing *a capella* and learned how to play the guitar. Lou would practice on their neighbor's roof where she found solace and inspiration from the clouds above and the breeze that blew in the late afternoons.

Regret

Her regret is that she cannot do the same in Manila because, according to her, she "might be mistaken for an '*akyat-bahay*' gang member!"

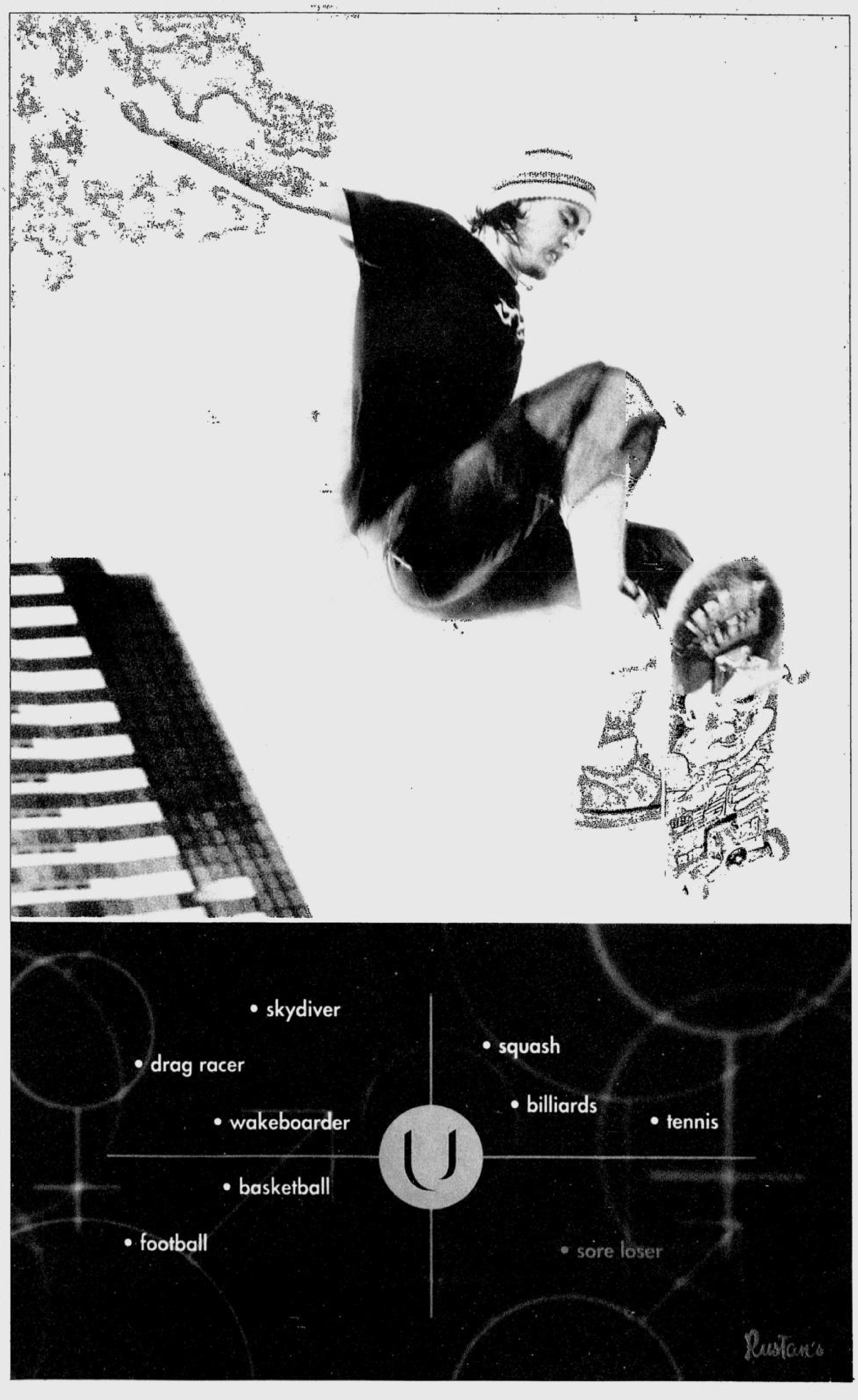
Her class at the University of Saint Anthony in Iriga City, Camarines Sur was very musical. She was part of a band where she played the xylophone. She became the choir's conductor and they participated in memorable competitions and parades within the Bicol region.

As a teenager, the pretty *mestiza* wanted to be a serious musician so she went to Manila with her mother. At 16, she did occasional gigs in hotels and later on was introduced to a record company (WEA) where her demo tape was developed into her first album.

During that time, she met Toto Gentica, an Ilonggo, who launched her in a show at the Tavern On The Square. From then on, she sang all over the country with Toto, who is now her husband.

Listen to Lou Bonnevie's repertoire tonight from U2, Police, Blondie, Aerosmith, Tina Turner, Corrs, Janis Japlin, pop favorites from the '80s and originals from her album (some composed by Lou herself). The Republic of Malate is located at 1769 A. Mabini St., Malate, Manila. The band starts playing at 9 p.m., followed by Lou's show at 10:30 p.m.

BONNEVIE. Her show is a real treat.



Trading action for art in 'Moulin Rouge'

KIDMAN. Praised for her "enthusiasm, abandon and skill."

BY BOB TOURTELLOTTE

LOS ANGELES—Tired of all the bombs in "Pearl Harbor" and overactive cadavers in "The Mummy Returns"? Then trade in that action for some art as the curtain rises on "Moulin Rouge."

Familiar myths

The musical, starring Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor, is the final film in what Australian director Baz Luhrmann calls his "Red Curtain" series, which take familiar myths and retell them in a dramatically heightened fashion.

Before audiences hit the theaters, however, Luhrmann says they should know exactly what they are going to see in this modern-day "Moulin Rouge:" $50 million of elaborate sets, fantastic costumes and a story with dialogue culled from pop tunes by Elton John, The Beatles, U2 and Madonna.

The goal of the "Red Curtain" series, Luhrmann said, is to engage audiences and encourage them to participate in the tale. "It's not naturalism where you sit back and (the movie) happens to you," he said in an interview. "We are saying, you've got to be involved in it and open to it."

> The film's story of lost love is played out through a series of elaborate dance numbers, songs and plot twists

Biblical tale

In his first "Red Curtain" film, "Strictly Ballroom" (1992), he used the biblical tale of David and Goliath and set it in the colorful world of ballroom dancing. In "William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet" (1996), the medieval classic of forbidden love was set in modern Verona Beach with the rival Montague and Capulet families as gun-toting fashion mavens.

"Moulin Rouge" retells the Greek myth of Orpheus, who descends into hell to save his beloved Eurydice, only to lose her again. The movie sets the myth in the decadent Parisian nightclub Moulin Rouge, circa 1900, when absinthe-drinking bohemians such as Toulouse-Lautrec were frequent guests.

In this case, Orpheus is a poor writer named Christian (McGregor) who has come to Paris in a quest for love. Eurydice is Moulin Rouge chanteuse Satine (Kidman), who is adored by all men but enamored of none until she meets Christian.

Conflict

The conflict is supplied by Moulin Rouge proprietor Harold Zidler (Jim Broadbent) via an introduction of Satine to "The Duke" (Richard Roxburgh), who promises her a lifetime of wealth and luxury in exchange for her love.

Their story of lost love is played out through a series of elaborate dance numbers, songs and plot twists using lyrics from a range of tunes like "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend," "Your Song," "Pride (In The Name of Love)" and "Roxanne."

"I think the music unites us no matter what our boundaries. It transcends time and geography . . . and does have a power beyond words," Luhrmann said, adding that traditional operas in their "golden period" had the same ability to deliver a message entirely through music, elaborate staging, costumes and sets.

The question for "Moulin Rouge," however, is: Will modern movie audiences—not known for being opera lovers—get it?

"I don't expect everyone to," Luhrmann said, "because it's so new and imagined."

Music video

Old French dance standards such as the can can are choreographed and filmed like a music video on MTV, and much of the film takes place inside Satine's dressing room, which is designed to look like a giant elephant.

Early reviews have been mixed.

Views of critics at the Cannes film festival in France, where "Moulin Rouge" premiered in May, ranged from "like the very worst Disney, only dripping in camp" (Liberation) to "a fabulous ode to the art of the show" (Le Figaro).

After a limited release in the United States, the New York Times called it "undeniably rousing, but there is not a single moment of organic excitement because Mr. Luhrmann is so busy splicing bits from other films."

Enthusiasm

The Los Angeles Times praised Kidman and McGregor for "the enthusiasm, abandon and skill they bring to their roles."

"One thing I haven't heard anybody say about this film is that it's boring," Kidman told reporters here.

The actress, whose current separation from box office superstar Tom Cruise has only added to the publicity surrounding the film, said the risk factor in making such an extravagantly staged musical drew her to it.

Kidman took singing and dancing classes during some six months of rehearsal in Australia that, she said, made her feel like she was back in drama school.

She cracked a rib during filming, then reinjured it when her costume's corset was pulled too tight. She also injured a knee when she stumbled in one dance number and finished her clasp shots on crutches—out of sight of the cameras.

Daring

That kind of daring and dedication to art has characterized her recent work on stage in director Sam Mendes' "The Blue Room" and on screen in the late Stanley Kubrick's "Eyes Wide Shut." "Moulin Rouge" follows those movies in the same vein of work that refuses to sacrifice art for the sake of commerce.

"This is a film that's unusual and unconventional. I believe in it. I love it. We all worked so hard," Kidman said.

Now it is up to audiences, as the final film in the artfully minded "Red Curtain" series gets set to take a bow. *Reuters*

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PADILLA AND PERALEJO. New stellar combination.

Robin . . .

(From page D3)

Mistakes

He would also like viewers of "Buhay Kamao" to learn from Pepe's mistakes. "Desperate *siya kaya nagbenta siya ng laban*," he explains. "*Pero walang* glory *doon. Bumaba ang respeto ng tao sa kanya. Sa huli, ipapakita na ang* glory *nasa pakikipaglaban para sa dangal.*"

"*Ang* lesson *dito*," he continues, "*ay ang buhay ay punong-puno ng hirap. Kahit si* Bill Gates, *may problema. 'Di lang pera ang kaligayahan. Ang importante ay kung paano mo pinoprotektahan ang dangal mo. Kung paano ka may respeto sa sarili mo. Kung paano mo pinaghihirapan ang kinakain mo.*"

Listening to Robin share those insights makes the adage "Pain makes us think, thinking makes us wise, wisdom makes life profitable" come to life. His life behind bars should be history by now. He's been reformed by the precious lessons he's learned. If he could have his way, he would want people to focus on the new Robin Padilla.

He wishes the press would stop referring to him as an ex-convict. His family has settled down in Australia to protect the kids. "*Hindi ko maisaksak sa utak ng mga anak ko na kaya ako naging* ex-convict *ay dahil sa* illegal possession of firearms," he shakes his head in desperation. "*Hindi naman nila alam kung bakit nakukulong ang isang tao.*"

Inferiority complex

"*Noong nakakulong pa ako at patok si* Leo Echegaray, *tinatanong ang mga anak ko kung kailan ako bibitayin! Ayaw kong magkaroon sila ng* inferiority complex *dahil nakulong ang tatay nila.*"

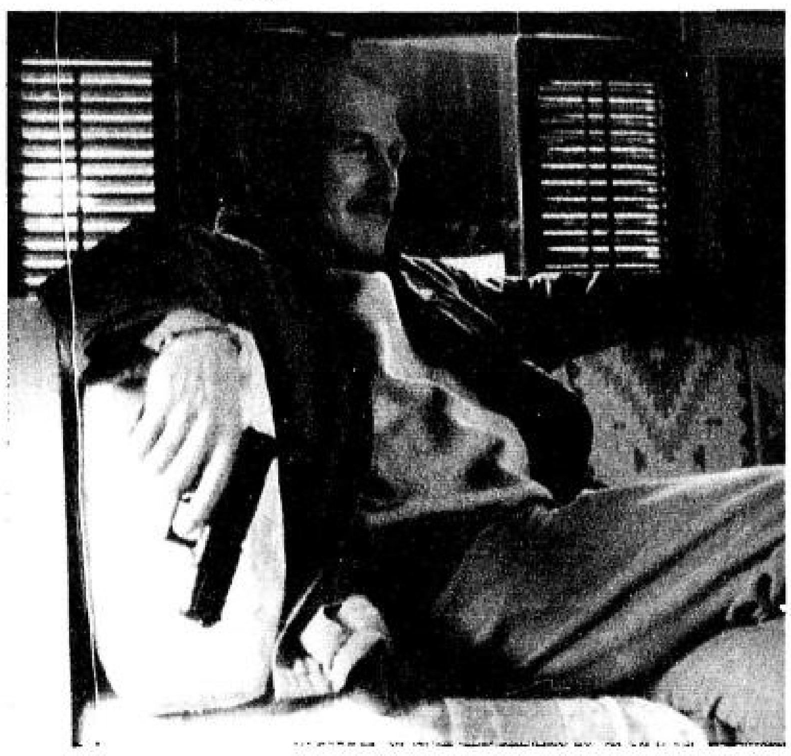
Robin wants to talk about Islam, how he wanted to die while he was on a pilgrimage to Mecca ("*para doon ka na lang*") and how his movie with Joyce Jimenez got him a citation for imparting Muslim values. He's using his movies now to touch people's lives, he declares.

Robin is likewise excited to share how well he's doing in his criminology studies. "*Binigyan kami ng* test *sa* law enforcement," he recalls, grinning. "*Banggaan. Tatlo kayo, sino ang may kasalanan? 'Yung iba, kung anu-ano ang sinabi. Ako lang ang tama. Kaso ko 'yun! Na*-appreciate *ng* professor *ang* essay *ko dahil galing ito sa* experience."

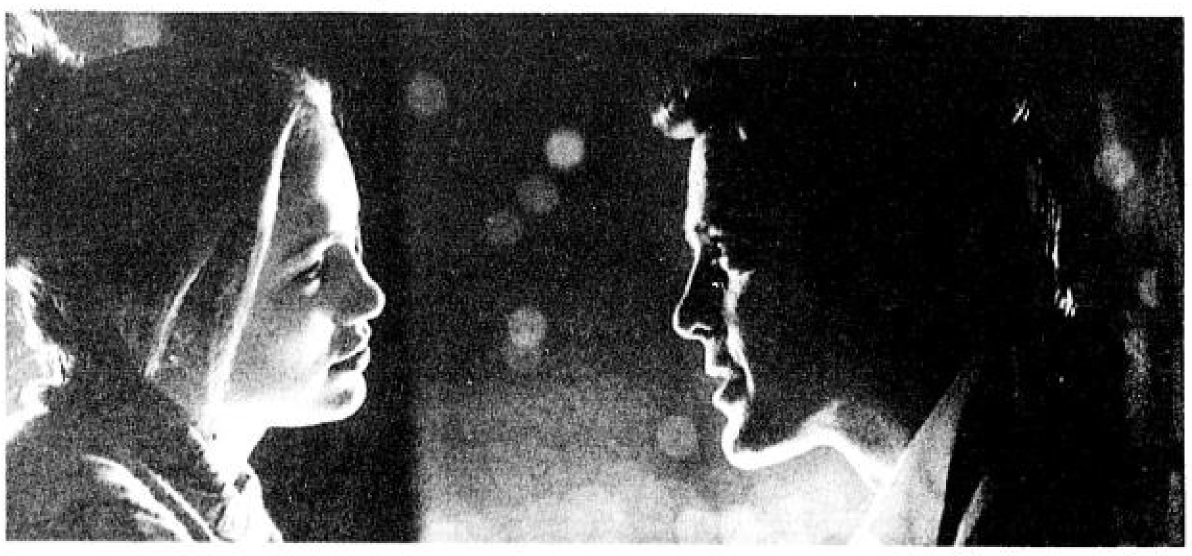
He also has another ambition: "*Gusto kong maging* principal *ng isang* Islamic school *para sa mga bata!*" he beams.

Outstanding movies on television this week

BY NOELANI TORRE



PAUL Newman stars in "Harper," showing on Cinemax on June 19 at 6 a.m.



GEORGE Clooney co-stars with Jennifer Lopez in "Out of Sight," showing on Cinemax at 12:15 p.m. on June 18.

HBO

"SCANDAL." Saturday, June 16, 6:30 a.m. A Fascinating dramatization of the sex scandal that shocked Britian in the early '60s—the Profumo Affair. Joanne Whalley-Kilmer plays naïve showgirl Christine Keeler whom Stephen Ward, played by John Hurt, introduces to the Secretary of State for War, John Profumo. Whalley-Kilmer and Hurt are first-rate in this first film by director Michael Caton-Jones.

"Little Nikita." Saturday, June 16, 8:30 a.m. The bright but short-lived star of River Phoenix shines in this film about an all-American teenager who finds out that his parents are Soviet spies. Jeff (Phoenix) struggles to come to terms with this as it introduces him to the dangers of international epsionage. Academy Award winner Sidney Poitier delivers a sparkling performance as the FBI agent who reveals to Jeff the truth about the latter's parents.

"Cape Fear." Saturday, June 16, 1:30 p.m. Robert de Niro plays a psychological basket case newly released from jail and bent on taking revenge on the lawyer, played by Nick Nolte, who sent him there. This tense thriller is Martin Scorsese's remake of the 1962 Gregory Peck/ Robert Mitchum classic.

"Psycho." Saturday, June 16, 2:30 a.m. Starring Anthony Perkins and Vera Miles, this horror classic is still terrifying after all these years. Considered the crowning glory of master director Alfred Hitchcock's career, "Psycho" has been frequently sequelled and imitated but never surpassed. Perkins is riveting as the strange and troubled Norman Bates in this superb adaptation of Robert Bloch's novel.

"Stepmom." Monday, June 18, 7 p.m. From the man who gave us "Mrs. Doubtfire" and "Home Alone" comes the touching story of two mothers fighting each other for the love of the same children. It stars Academy Award winners Susan Sarandon and Julia Roberts as the kids' natural mother and stepmother, respectively.

"Analyze This." Tuesday, June 19, 8:15 p.m. In this comedy with an edge, Robert de Niro is a Mafia don who wants to soften up and find another way to release tension other than by shooting somebody. He seeks help from an underachieving psychiatrist played by Billy Crystal. Lisa Kudrow is the psychiatrist's fianceé in this tensely funny film.

"Boogie Nights." Wednesday, June 20, 1:55 a.m. Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, who also did "Magnolia," this exposé of the porn industry has been called "extraordinary and intense" by critics. It tells the tale of a naïve 17-year-old waiter, played by Mark Wahlberg, who is discovered by a veteran porn director, played by Burt Reynolds. Eddie, the waiter, stars in numerous hit sex films that make him rich, famous and ultimately, despairing. Set in the '70s and '80s, it also stars Julianne Moore and Heather Graham.

"Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels." Thursday, June 21, 2:45 a.m. This is a movie about four London blokes who bet £100,000 in a high stakes card game, which turns out to be a set-up, and end up owing £500,000, which they have to pay in one week. Starring Jason Flemyng, Dexter Fletcher, Nick Moran, Jason Statham, and Sting, this hilarious film only gets more and more complicated. Written and directed by another Brit, Guy Ritchie.

Cinemax

"Out of Sight." Monday, June 18, 12:15 p.m. Directed by Steven Soderbergh, whose "Traffic" won four Academy Awards, this stylish multiple time line crime caper stars Jennifer Lopez as an FBI agent and George Clooney as a bank robber who accidentally meet when he makes a prison break. Lopez's performance in this film adaptation of Elmore Leonard's best-selling novel established her as an actress. This film was nominated for an Oscar for best editing and adapted screenplay.

"The Collector." Monday, June 18, 2:15 p.m. This is the disturbing story of an ordinary bank teller, played by Terrence Stamp, who decides to collect more than butterflies. Samantha Eggar is Miranda, the girl he abducts and hides in the cellar of his house. Based on John Fowles' best-selling novel, this film won international awards for the powerful performances of its cast.

"Crackers." Monday, June 18, 9 p.m. A remake of the classic "Big Deal on Madonna Street," this comic crime caper tells the story of five inept misfits who try to make a quick buck by robbing a San Francisco pawnshop. Donald Sutherland stars as the gang's leader and Sean Penn as the leader's thick-skulled sidekick. Directed by celebrated French director Louis Malle.

"Harper." Tuesday, June 19, 6 a.m. Paul Newman is Harper, a private detective hired by a rich socialite, played by Lauren Bacall, to locate her missing husband. Expect fast-paced action as Harper fends off assaults, kidnappers, ex-wives and religious cults. Based on Ross MacDonald's "The Moving Target," the film also stars Janet Leigh and Robert Wagner.

"Bob Roberts." Wednesday, June 20, 12:45 p.m. A Tim Robbins production (he stars, writes and directs), this stimulating political satire tells of a right-wing senatorial candidate who is seemingly sincere but is actually a brilliant manipulator of both audience and media.

"Once Upon a Time in America." Wednesday, June 20, 9 p.m. Spanning 40 years of American history, Sergio Leone's "homage to the gangster era" traces the lives of four friends from New York's East Side. Robert de Niro and James Woods deliver compelling performances in this absorbing and stunningly art-directed film.

"Chances Are." Friday, June 22, 4 p.m This romantic comedy shows how a couple gets a second chance at love, even when one of them is already dead. Cybill Shepherd is a widow whose beloved husband returns to her in another man's body. Love triangles abound in this magical and hilarious film.

"The Cotton Club." Friday, June 22, 1:40 a.m. Directed by Francis Ford Coppola, this stylish and visually exciting film pays homage to the colorful nightlife of Harlem in the '20s and '30s. It stars Richard Gere as cornet player Dixie Dwyer who dreams of becoming a movie star, but who falls dangerously in love instead with his gangster protector's mistress. The sountrack, full of Duke Ellington's music, is enthralling.

MARK Wahlberg topbills "Boogie Nights" on HBO (June 20, 1:15 a.m.).

'SPIDER' is less violent than usual, relying on accelerating plot twists to keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

'Along Came a Spider' spins new web

AFTER nearly three years that included months of delays while filmmakers searched for a new ending, criminal profiler Alex Cross returns in "Along Came a Spider."

Huge number

"Spider" is the first in the series of six Alex Cross novels by Patterson that have recently generated initial print runs of one million copies in hard cover—a huge number for the publishing industry.

"Spider" is far less violent. Instead, it relies on a more old-fashioned formula of accelerating plot twists that keeps audiences on the edge of their seats until the ultimate terror is revealed in the movie's final minutes.

At the center of the "Spider" web is detective Cross, an expert in the science of profiling criminals, who went on sabbatical after the death of his partner—a fate for which Cross felt responsible.

As the movie begins, he is forced back on the job when Gary Soneji (played by Michael Wincott) kidnaps the daughter of a US senator from under the watchful eye of US Secret Service Agent Jezzie Flannigan (Monica Potter).

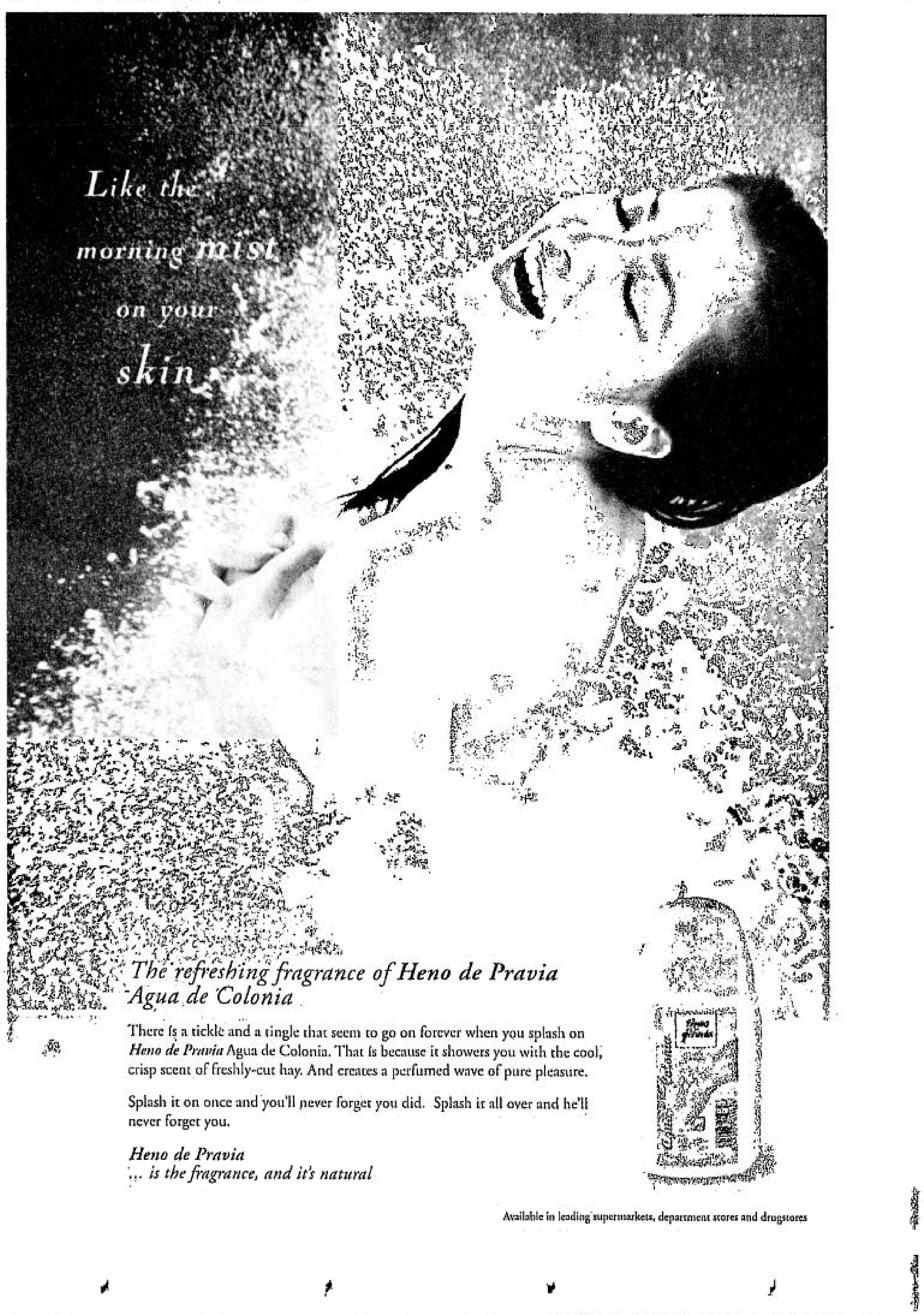
The revelation comes about midway through the film and that—for moviegoers and Patterson fans—is where the real guessing game begins as "Spider" reaches its exciting conclusion

Several endings

That movie went through several endings before its makers finally decided on the demise of Close's character, which seemed to please audiences the most.

Producer David Brown was unapologetic, saying in interviews: "We had so many endings to this movie but we finally got the right one. All I want to happen is, I hope, they create a page-turner onscreen," he said.

He is also hopeful that Paramount Pictures, which backed "Spider" and "Kiss the Girls," will go ahead with a third film based, if he gets his way, on "Pop Goes the Weasel." But his readers would not expect Patterson's choice to win the day in Hollywood. He is, after all, only the novelist.



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Superstars of Pinoy pop, then and now

By Nestor U. Torre

IN 1982, Norma Japitana wrote "The Superstars of Pop," one of the few books ever published about the popular music scene in the Philippines. The book detailed how the music industry discovered and built up recording and live performance talents.

14 singers

In the book, Norma J also wrote about 14 singers who, in her view, had what it took to stay on top of the music scene for years and even decades on end.

Her best bets: Freddie Aguilar, Hajji Alejandro, Nora Aunor, Pilita Corrales, Sharon Cuneta, Mike Hanopol, Celeste Legaspi, Leah Navarro, Imelda Papin, Eddie Peregrina, Rico J. Puno, Didith Reyes, Sampaguita and Victor Wood.

Today, 20 years after Norma J. first singled them out, where are these 14 original "superstars of pop"?

Freddie Aguilar brought folksinging into the music mainstream when he sang "Anak," his entry to the first Metro Manila Popular Music Festival, in March, 1978 at the Folk Arts Theater.

ALEJANDRO. Total performer.

AGUILAR (right) with daughter Maegan.

Beautiful song

The beautiful song didn't win a prize (it won one of the top prizes in *our* book, however), but the public loved it, and soon the song became a single that sold an unprecedented 100,000 copies. By the time Norma J's book came out, the record had hit the 800,000 mark!

Albums followed, plus promotional tours and big concerts here and abroad. "Anak" was translated into many languages and Freddie became a sensation not just in the Philippines, but also in Japan and some European countries.

Flashforward to the present: Freddie is still a star, performing constantly here and abroad.

Activist

Even better, he has made his mark as a political activist, using his songs as stirring anthems to energize the populace into taking a stand in the fight against dictators and other evil politicians.

And Freddie's daughter, Maegan, is continuing his musical impetus in her own, rocking way.

Hajji Alejandro was dubbed the Prince of Pop in 1977, when his signature songs ("Tag-araw," "Panakip-butas") made him stand out in his groups like the Circus Band and Lovelife, and thrust him into the solo spotlight's glare.

Interpreter

Hajji was also helped immensely by his having been the interpreter of Ryan Cayabyab's "Kay Ganda ng Ating Musika," which won the top prize in the Metropop.

His performance of the song was made special not just by his outstanding singing, but also by his showmanship. Thus did Hajji serve notice that a total performer had arrived on the local show biz scene.

Indeed, Hajji later branched out to acting in the movies, and in musical-theater productions like Leo Rialp's "Manila, Manila, As Time Goes By" and "Batibot."

Loyal fans

Then, Hajji decided to uproot himself and live in the United States. This shocked his loyal fans, who thought that he would always be around to entertain them.

In time, however, Hajji's daughter, Rachel, came home to launch her own impressive singing, recording and acting careers. And, some years later, Hajji himself moved back to the Philippines, where he has become popular once more, not just with his "loyalists," but also with younger music fans, who have been captivated by his still dynamic musical performances. ***(To be continued)***

Vina Morales learns to take control of her life

By Ricky T. Gallardo

IT USED to be that entertainment artists were content if they shone in one medium. They rarely crossed boundaries since many of their predecessors had tried and failed, and in the process had confused their fan base about what they could do best.

Fields

Many of those who tried to venture out of their fields also succumbed to the "too-much, too-soon" curse.

In the new age of entertainment, however, the rules have changed. Seizing the moment is the name of the game. If you have much talent to give, you spread your wings, set your sights on different fields and conquer all fronts.

Take the case of Vina Morales. Starting out as a co-host on the defunct variety show, "That's Entertainment" in the '80s, Morales has carefully developed herself into one of today's genuine multi-media stars.

Nowadays, if she's not performing in big concerts here or abroad, she's busy hosting the Sunday noontime show "ASAP," shooting a film, taping for TV, or recording an album.

Recently, Vina released a new collection under EMI Music.

Bid

Touted as the album to pave the way for a bid at international singing stardom, the 12-track all-English CD is a radical departure for Vina.

This time, she dabbles in both upbeat and slow songs that incorporate tinges of funk, R&B, dance and techno. "*Maninibago ang mga* fans, *pero magugustuhan din nila ang mga* songs if they give them a fair listening. *At saka uso naman ang* R&B and techno, so *madaling sakyan. Kahit ano'ng* album *ang gawin ko*, I make sure *na* I give my all from the selection of the songs up to post production," Vina explains.

With this in mind, EMI enlisted a stellar cast of session musicians such as Arnold Buena, Mike Luis, and Edwin Marollano. The first single is the eastern-flavored "Pillow," which is beginning to make waves not only in the Philippines but also around the Asian region.

"EMI India is bent on getting me to do an album in New Delhi," Vina enthuses, "*S'yempre*, I realize that it's a big break *pag natuloy*. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that this will be the start of something big."

Big bosses

Her romance with the big bosses of the different EMI offices in the Asia-Pacific region started two years ago when Manila hosted a regional conference. Morales sang a couple of her songs and impressed the delegates with her beauty and style.

MORALES. More open to possibilities.

Last year, she flew to Malaysia with the executives of EMI Manila and regaled the delegates with her bravura numbers. So the offers and invitations started pouring in, and EMI India has never stopped in its pursuit of Vina.

On the love front, Morales shares that she as learned enough lessons to make her stronger the next time she falls in love. "It's an area where I'm glad to say that I'm in full control. It used to be that I allowed my emotions to rule when I was in love, but I know better now," she says.

Morales adds that EMI India wants to repackage her in the mold of an Asian version of Jennifer Lopez, to take advantage of her dancing skills and vocal range.

The time left for her after work is devoted to working out in the gym.

Yoga classes

Morales has discovered the joys of attending yoga classes where she keeps herself fit mentally and spiritually.

We were able to listen to her "Total Control" CD and found it interesting. Aside from "Pillow," which we heard is doing a steady climb up the local charts, other outstanding tracks are the English-Spanish adaptation of "Muli (Otra Vez)," the jumpy "On The Floor" and the R&B cut "So Much In Love."

Morales admits that she's more open to possibilities now. "I have learned to be more accepting and adjustable. Being in control doesn't mean that I follow only what I want; sometimes, getting where you want to go means listening to what the world wants you to hear," she says.

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Travolta's 'Swordfish' is catch of the week for moviegoers

By David Germain

LOS ANGELES—John Travolta's new thriller "Swordfish" hooked enough moviegoers to debut as the weekend's top film, earning $18.4 million.

Villainous agent

"Swordfish" stars Travolta as a villainous agent out to steal billions to finance anti-terrorist attacks.

Holding well, the animated "Shrek" retained the No. 2 spot with $17.1 million, pushing its four-week total to $176.6 million. "Pearl Harbor," the No. 1 film for two straight weekends, slipped to third place with $14.9 million, raising its total to $144.1 million after three weeks.

STELLAR cast of "Swordfish" includes, from left, Halle Berry, John Travolta, Don Cheadle and Hugh Jackman.

The David Duchovny-Julianne Moore comedy "Evolution" debuted at No. 4 with $13.2 million. Directed by Ivan Reitman ("Ghostbusters"), "Evolution" tells the story of bumbling scientists battling alien lifeforms.

The overall box office continued this year's upward trend. The top 12 movies grossed $94.8 million, up 3.3 percent from the same weekend a year ago. So far in 2001, Hollywood revenues are running about 9.5 percent ahead of last year's record pace.

Despite generally bad reviews, "Swordfish" wound up as Travolta's third-best debut ever, behind "Face/Off" and "The General's Daughter."

Black comedy

"Swordfish" also soundly beat the openings of Travolta's last two movies, the black comedy "Lucky Numbers" and "Battlefield Earth," one of Hollywood's biggest bombs in years.

Box-office analysts had not expected "Swordfish" to debut so strongly.

"It's good to be back in the John Travolta business," said Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner Bros., which released "Swordfish" and also "Battlefield Earth." "We beat the odds. The tracking had us down the totem pole, but people really like this movie."

Playing in 2,678 locations, "Swordfish" averaged a solid $6,882 a theater. "Shrek" averaged $4,603 in 3,715 theaters, "Pearl Harbor" did $4,578 in 3,255 locations and "Evolution" averaged $5,056 in 2,611 cinemas.

Disney had promising news for a trial run of "Atlantis: The Lost Empire," which opened to packed houses, grossing $341,588 at two theaters in New York City and Los Angeles. Featuring the voice of Michael J. Fox, the animated adventure follows a band of explorers seeking the sunken city.

"Atlantis" opens nationwide next weekend, along with "Tomb Raider," starring Angelina Jolie as videogame hero Lara Croft.

Limited release

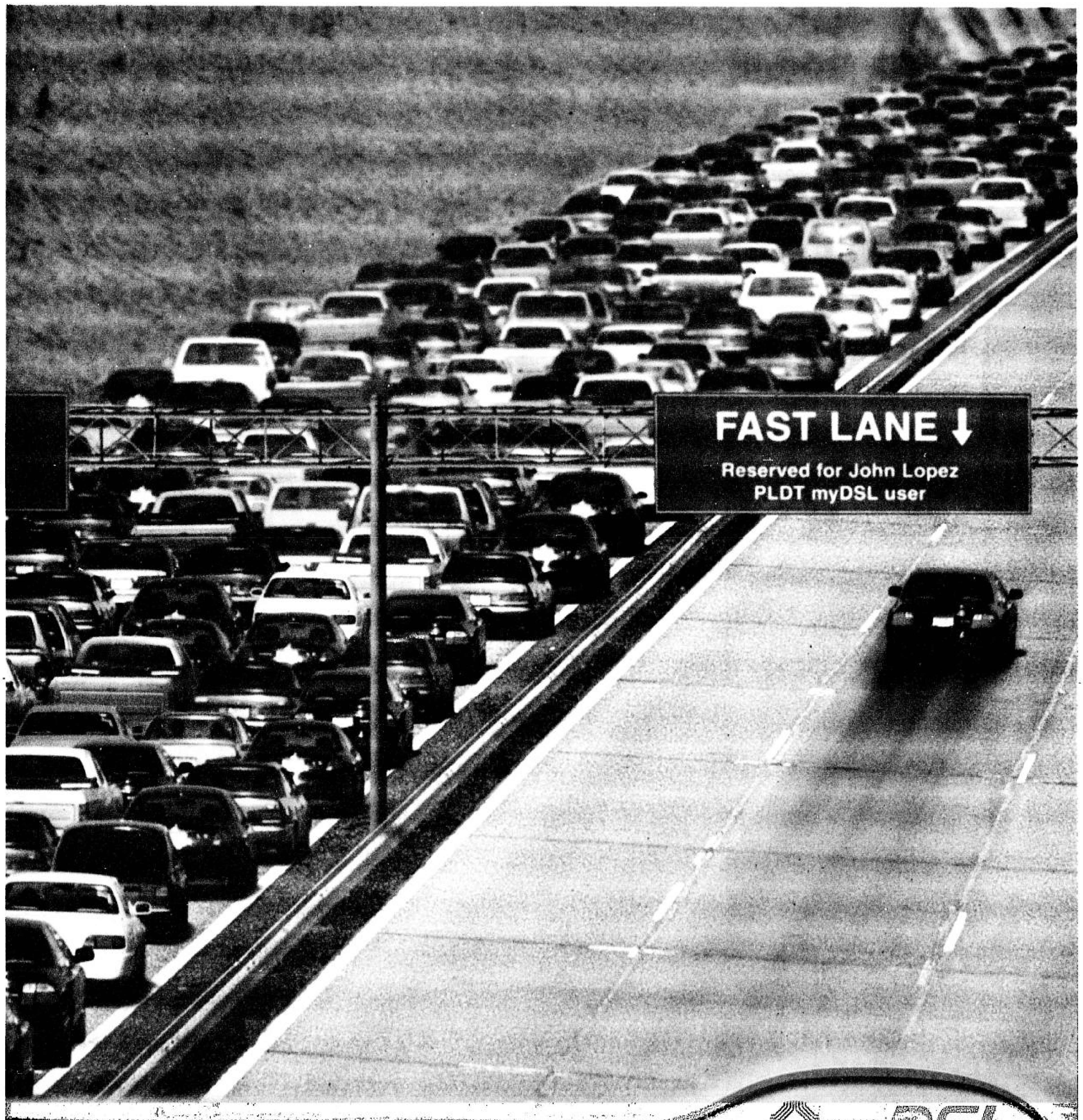
In limited release, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Alan Cumming's "The Anniversary Party" had a strong debut of $167,000 in 11 theaters, for a $15,182 average. The film expands to about 100 theaters June 22.

A melodrama about a crumbling marriage, "The Anniversary Party" was written and directed by Leigh and Cumming. They also head the ensemble cast, which includes Gwyneth Paltrow, Kevin Kline and Parker Posey.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.:

1. "Swordfish," $18.4 million.
2. "Shrek," $17.1 million.
3. "Pearl Harbor," $14.9 million.
4. "Evolution," $13.2 million.
5. "The Animal," $9.8 million.
6. "Moulin Rouge," $7.6 million.
7. "What's the Worst That Could Happen?," $5.4 million.
8. "The Mummy Returns," $4.2 million.
9. "A Knight's Tale," $1.7 million.
10. "Bridget Jones's Diary," $1.2 million.

AP



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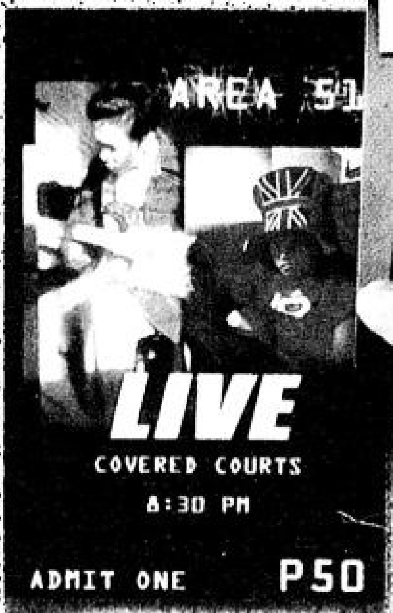

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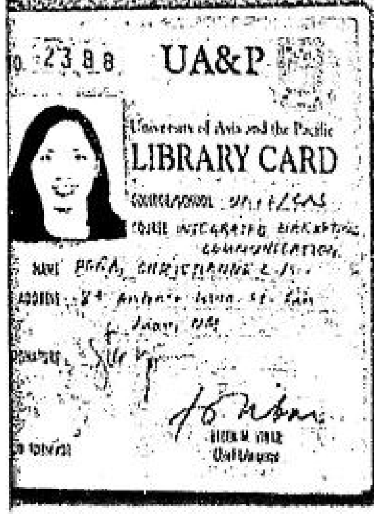

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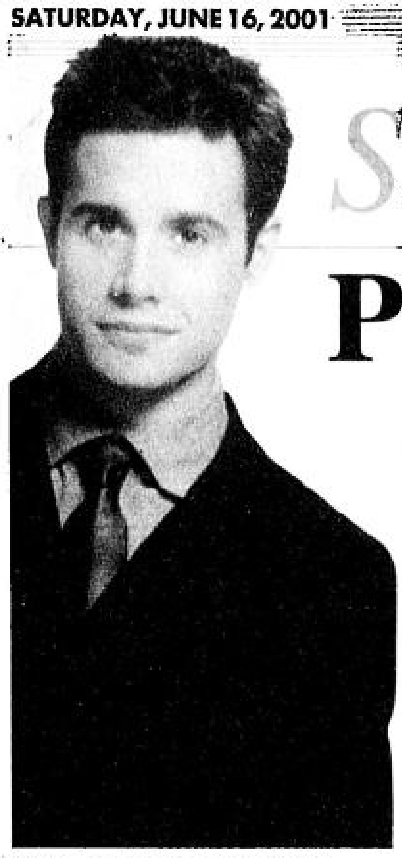

PRINZE. James Bond flair.

Prinze flips over career

By Ellen Kim

GENEROUSLY sharing his stash of Twizzlers, the newly blond Freddie Prinze Jr. chomps and buzzes excitedly about his next project, the big-screen adaptation of "Scooby-Doo." (He'll play Fred with real-life girlfriend Sarah Michelle Gellar taking on Daphne.)

Fixation

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Prinze flips over career

(From page D1)

quotes from memory the part of the script that refers to the cartoon's fixation on the "Harlem Globetrotters." He raves about future co-stars Linda Cardellini and Matthew Lillard and their uncanny impersonations of Velma and Shaggy. He can't wait.

This boyish giddiness is also, in part, from an eagerness to prove something. The son of "Chico and the Man" star Freddie Prinze, who committed suicide when his son was a baby, burst into teen idoldom after 1999's "She's All That."

But he's also been working diligently on his acting chops ever since his first major role in "The House of Yes," a film that remains his favorite, though not necessarily because of his performance.

POTTER, third from left, and her fashion model roommates.

Best work

"If I could do it again, there are a lot of things I genuinely believe I could do better," he reflects. "However, I'm very proud of 'House of Yes' at that age, that was the best work I could do."

Tearing voraciously into another licorice, Prinze delights in finally beginning a new arc in his career—leaving his teen-flick days behind. The under-16 set may continue to adore his clean-cut mug from "She 's All That" and "Down to You," but Prinze, 24, says his last "youth" film was last year's college-aged "Boys and Girls."

"Head Over Heels" his latest, takes him way off-campus, playing a New York fashion executive in Armani suits and a disarming smile.

Monica Potter plays Amanda, a lovelorn art restorer who falls for him but thinks he may be a lady-killer—literally.

As he dodges—and suspends—suspicion, Prinze not only gets the chance to hone his comic skills, but shows off a little James Bond flair.

Smooth

"There were a couple times I felt like Bruce Wayne in the suit, and I was feeling kinda smooth, "Prinze admits. "And I'd actually introduce myself: Hi, how's it going ? Bruce Wayne.' And I'd do my own Michael Keaton thing. Of course, this is my trailer when no one's looking."

It may be awhile before Prinze proves he's action-hero material (rumor has it he lobbied for the role of Spider-Man, which went to Tobey Maguire). In the meantime, he's still got plenty on his plate.

"I'm very proud of my work in this," he said." Are there things I'd change? Yeah, of course . But can I? No, so I accept them. And I'm very proud of it and I know how hard I worked—which wasn't too terribly hard on this movie 'cause I had the greatest part in the world—but it was fun just the same."

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Cheesecakes to say cheese about

WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

MY FIRST experience with the fabulous cheesecake was in our Philippine restaurant in Paris a few decades ago. Our baker was Chef Ramon Tayag, who has moved on to New York City. After trying his version, my standard shot up and it has been difficult to find an acceptable version except in a few places in the US or in the kitchen of Buddy Trinidad.

Grateful

When my friend Gelo invited me to sample some cheesecakes, I was a bit hesitant. After the snack, though, I was very grateful for the invitation.

Cheesecake etc. is a small outlet on the second floor of Greenbelt in Makati. They serve a variety of cheesecake versions. Originally from Canada, the franchise brought in a consultant to create additional cheesecakes apart from the existing ones on the menu. The first one I tried was Mango Passion. This is your standard New York cheesecake with a slight tinge of mango flavor, topped with a mango mirror. Fantastic!

MANGO passion.

The second was Café de Luna, which is a dark chocolate cheesecake with a fudge brownie base, topped with a Tuscan expresso powder. Also delicious! The Belgian double cheesecake also comes highly recommended.

Another cake I enjoyed was the Cashew Dome Cake. This is made with white chocolate amaretto with praline cream surrounding a tender nut cake. Different and superb!

Sampler

To help diners, they have what they call a sampler, in which you may try any three versions of your choice. As if this were not enough to put on 23 lbs., they served me an absolutely luscious drink.

They call this killer the Girardelli Chocolate Malt—a cold, thick, bittersweet drink that I just can't stop raving about. This is the undefeated heavyweight champion of all chocolate shakes in the world, a chocoholic's dream come true. It is a must!

These days, whenever I get a cheesecake craving, I thank Gelo for his invitation. My discovery. Cheesecake, etc., is located at Greenbelt Makati, on the second floor near the cinemas.

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ENTERTAINMENT BOOKSHELF

Tom Stoppard goes from obscure journalist to acclaimed playwright

BY NOELANI TORRE

TOM Stoppard is "cerebral, scholarly, and allusive," writes critic Michael Billington in the introduction of his book "Stoppard, the Playwright" (Methuen).

He traces the career and progress of one of Britain's greatest contemporary dramatists with what he himself terms "a pleasurable bewilderment," offering insightful analyses of all of Stoppard's works from the novel to the television play.

Approach

In his introduction, Billington explains his approach to the plays and gives a summary of the development of Stoppard's work. He does not always agree with his subject's ideas but concedes that Stoppard is "a witty, gifted, complex dramatist."

His comments, in fact, serve to illuminate the playwright's intentions and more often than not, his failings. Which is not to say that praise is not given where it is due.

The book is arranged in chronological order, beginning with a discussion of Stoppard's first forays into playwriting. This is done in the second chapter, which bears the title "Young Tom."

Tom Stoppard was a journalist for six years (1954-1960) before venturing into playwriting at the age of 23. His first piece was a one-act play called "The Gamblers" which was only performed once and was never heard of again. His next play, "A Walk on the Water," was first written for the stage, then rewritten as a 90-minute television play and transformed further into a two-act stage play, "Enter a Free Man."

First stage

This work, says Billington, "neatly marks off the first stage of Stoppard's career: his transition from a Bristol journalist and struggling freelance to the most acclaimed young dramatist to emerge since Harold Pinter."

"Enter a Free Man" is about a failed middle-aged inventor who invents things that can't be used and who lives in a dream world, refusing to face reality. Billington does not have much praise for this first play which he finds "curiously impersonal."

However, he considers it significant in that it contains ideas which Stoppard explores in later works, such as a belief in "the value of individual initiative."

Stoppard's next project was a 15-minute radio play, "The Dissolution of Dominic Boot" (broadcast in 1964). This was his first radio play, a nightmarish farce which Billington calls "good drama." It reveals Stoppard's "instinct for radio" which the author considers "one of the great unsung dramatic mediums."

Random flow of life

Stoppard pursues the theme of humans trying to find order in the seemingly random flow of life in his next two radio plays, "M is for Moon among Other Things" and "If You're Glad I'll Be Frank."

In his early plays, Stoppard was interested in people who escape from reality and the humdrumness of daily living. Writing during the mid-'60s, a time of great change and disruption, his works then "hint that modern life is too much and that the best thing is to escape—with whatever grace one can muster—from the surrounding chaos."

At this time, around 1966, Stoppard was still virtually unknown. This all changed when his next play "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" was staged. It earned him rave reviews from the critics and made him an instant celebrity.

Critics called it "an amazing piece of work," "a gravity-defying masterpiece" and "the most important event in the British professional theater of the last nine years."

Billington, however, believes that it has been over-praised. Although he thinks of it as clever and inventive, he refrains from calling it a masterpiece.

Doomed friends

Revolving around Hamlet's doomed friends, the peripheral characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, the play is steeped in the philosophy of the senselessness of existence. Billington bemoans this play's lack of "real human content" and the writer's obviously skillful manipulation of the characters.

At this point, Billington makes several conclusions about the young dramatist, the most important of which are the latter's detached and superior approach to human affairs, his ingeniousness and "flair for verbal wit," and his being "a brilliantly resourceful writer for radio." *(To be concluded)*

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Hollywood's got a new star named DVD

By Bob Tourtellotte

LOS ANGELES—A new star is rising in Hollywood these days, but it's not a hunky leading man like Ben Affleck in "Pearl Harbor" or the brash and beautiful Angelina Jolie of "Tomb Raider."

Dollar signs

No, the marquee name that has movie studio executives seeing dollar signs is a shiny little disk called DVD.

The Digital Video Disc got its start in show biz four years ago and is now becoming a big contributor to the corporate bottom lines of the likes of The Walt Disney Co., News Corp. Ltd. and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.

The excitement is based on several factors, including this past year's explosion of DVD players in homes, special features that are creating an entirely new market and profit margins that are high now and expected to go even higher.

"GLADIATOR" has sold 5.4 million units, making it the best-selling DVD.

MARILYN Monroe's "Seven Year Itch" was launched at the Playboy Mansion.

"The beauty of it is," said Mike Dunn, executive vice president of News Corp. unit 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, "DVD is very sexy right now."

DVD players are currently installed in over 16 million consumer homes, according to an April report by the industry's DVD Entertainment Group. A DEG group spokeswoman said industry figures forecast the number of players, including portable units, to reach 27 million by the end of 2001.

First year

That is up from 150,000 at the end of DVD's first year on the market, 1997, and 8.6 million at the end of 2000, as cited in a report issued last week by consultants at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. The study forecasts the total number of installed DVD players in US households to hit 52 million by 2005, or nearly half of all US homes.

Moreover, Sony Corp.'s Playstation 2 video game console and the new Microsoft Corp. Xbox video player, which both have DVD capabilities, will expand the market.

In many cases, those units will put two players into homes—one in adults' living room and one in the kids' playroom.

Critical mass

In recent years, industry executives have been wondering when the number of players will reach a critical mass—a point at which DVD is no longer the arena of only one class of consumers, such as early adopters, but instead reaches all types of men, women, singles, couples and families.

At that point, the cost of making millions of DVDs and promoting them in wide-reaching media like radio, television and broad-issue consumer magazines makes sense because any one product will be available to millions more consumers.

"There's no doubt in my mind that we've reached critical mass by the sheer volume of product in the market and the growth we expect to see," said David Bishop, president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.'s Home Entertainment Group.

Indeed, on Friday last week, the DVD Entertainment Group said more than 10,000 DVD titles aimed at all types of consumers now sit on retail shelves, and that figure continues to grow rapidly.

Of any studio, perhaps MGM, which relies most heavily on its library of films to generate revenues, has the most to gain from the shift of DVDs aimed at early adopters—mostly male and mostly action movie fans—to DVDs aimed at mass consumers. It recently released a box set of "Rocky" films tied to the 25th anniversary of that blockbuster movie's premiere.

Not to be outdone, last week Fox launched a set of five Marilyn Monroe films like "The Seven Year Itch" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" at a Playboy Mansion bash attended by none other than Hugh Hefner, flanked by blondes dripping in diamonds.

At a news conference in New York on Monday, Paramount Pictures is expected to unveil plans to release Francis Ford Coppola's Oscar-winning "The Godfather."

Family-oriented Disney, whose animated VHS tapes have topped the charts in the home video market for years, also stands to gain. A recent

HOLLYWOOD'S p.D5

Who wants to adopt Danish model Jon Schaffer?

By Ricky T. Gallardo

MANY people who have seen the latest music video of OctoArts-EMI artist Vina Morales featuring the single 'Pillow' have asked: Who's that hunk cavorting with Vina underwater?

Color and character

His name is Jon Schaffer and he hails from the charming city of Copenhagen in Denmark. Schaffer was in town recently to add color and character to this much-talked-about music video. Joji Dingcong, his Manila agent, made sure we get a chance to get to talk with the international model during a lull in their 'wet and wild' video shoot.

Schaffer studied international business at North London University. He's a martial arts expert specializing in taekwondo and served as first lieutenant in the military for one year, overseeing a platoon of 35 soldiers.

His modelling has taken him to Asia, the United States, Europe and neighboring cities in his native Scandinavia. It has also opened doors for movie roles in Ireland.

His features: blue-eyed blonde, ruggedly-boyish, chiseled-front exteriors.

Hairless chest, toned, tanned and teasing. "When I was young, it never crossed my mind that one day, I would end up as a model. I thought I looked like any other young boy growing up in Denmark. But I guess that's the beauty of life, it'll take you to places you've never imagined."

Limitations

As a model, Schaffer says he has to always be conscious of how he treats his body. "It's the only one you've got and although there are a lot of limitations as far as genetics are concerned, all we have to do is love it, and develop it. And I don't mean tons and tons of muscles alone. The best for me includes a sound mind, a happy disposition, and a healthy lifestyle."

Schaffer says he has valued the art of relaxation, "Life is so fast-paced, so we have to learn to slow down. Our minds need to rest. Our bodies need to relax and restore lost energy."

He doesn't consider himself a gym freak but recognizes the importance of having a continuous workout regimen. So he hies off to the nearest gym four times a week if time permits. He also makes it a point to be disciplined about what he eats. "The more fat that you keep out of your body, the better," he says.

As he slowly inches his way into the entertainment circuit, Schaffer says he is beginning to develop a fondness for the arts. "I like the fact that there is always someone creating something out of nothing and the idea truly amazes me."

He looks forward to doing more films and hopes to land a martial arts role in Asia in the coming years.

High regard

He speaks very highly of the Filipinos he met during his short stint in Manila, and has very high regard for his video co-star Vina Morales. "I think she is awesome and there's so much to her than just the beautiful face and the wonderful talent."

Schaffer tells us that he's too much of a free spirit. "I always go with the flow and follow where the tide takes me. Somehow, that's not too good, specially when it comes to relationships."

He shares that he ended a relationship with a girlfriend recently because work called for him to be away almost all the time.

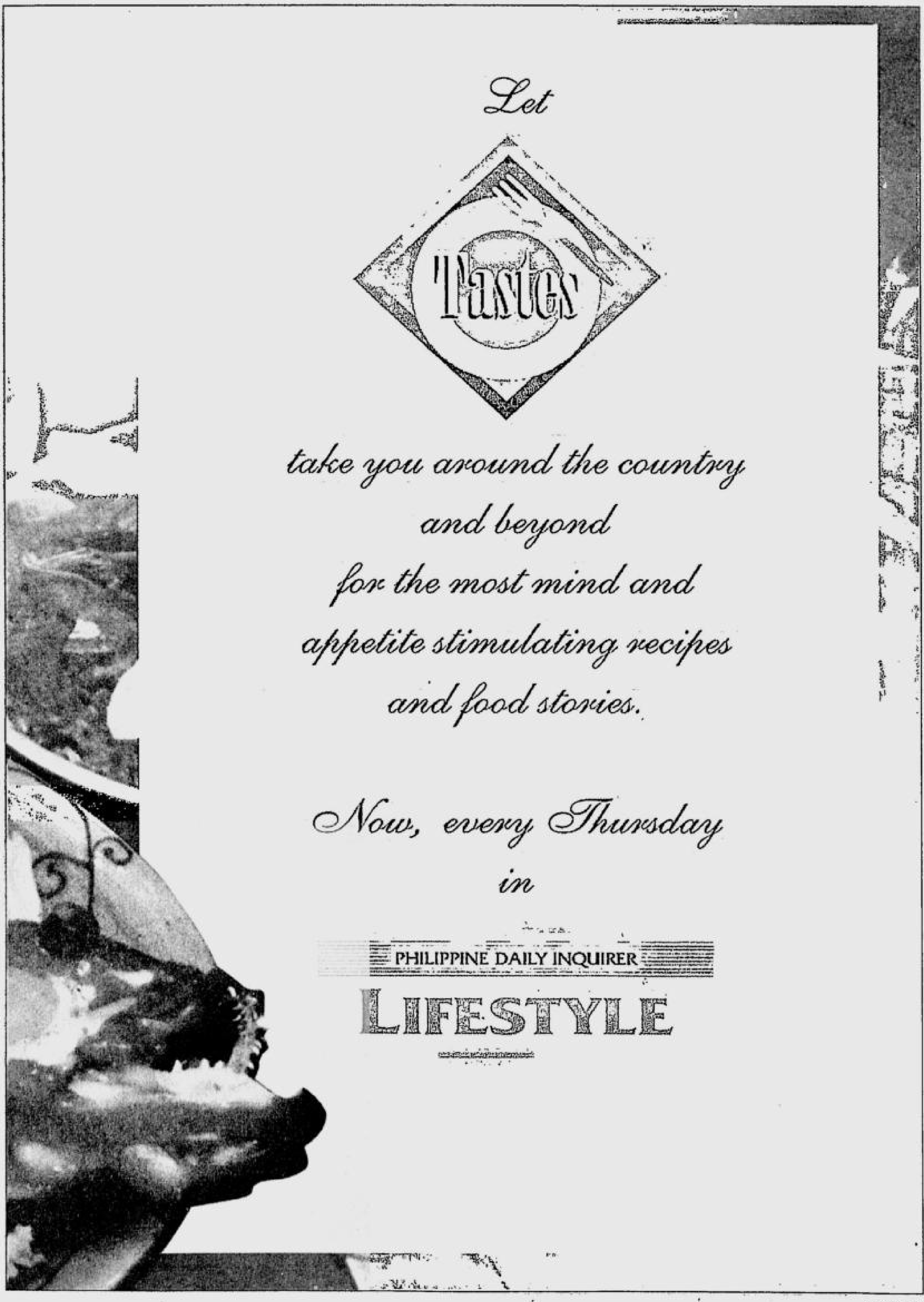
Good public relations is something Schaffer has in heaps. But the one thing he does best is flirt with the camera lenses.

During the shoot of his part in the video, Schaffer showed no supermodel attitude when director Louie Ignacio asked him to dive into the pool, take after take after take, and stay underwater as long as his lungs could take it.

SCHAFFER. Free spirit.

The fulfillment: "It feels so good knowing that your hard work is paying off and that you are reaping extra privileges for doing something well. I am fully aware about the very short life span of models because they always want them young and fresh and new, that's why I'm making the most of these opportunities.

"Besides, I love your country and wouldn't mind coming back again and again to do work because I know that I'll be taken care of very well here."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Parents should assist their children's pursuit of spirituality

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

I RECENTLY heard about a young girl who tried to seek out the Absolute Truth with great eagerness and enthusiasm. Unfortunately, her mother was totally against her daughter's pursuit of the spiritual life.

Meditation

She burned her books and restricted her from associating with my friends who taught meditation and yoga. She practically had barbed wire added to the high walls of their compound and had a psychiatrist turn her daughter's lifestyle back to her own.

She did not only want to control her daughter's life but she also managed to dictate to all her children the way they were to live their lives, their choice of jobs, when they should marry, etc.

When the daughter tried to run away, the mother hired cops to track her down and they poked guns at her to force her to go back to her mom.

In this world, not very many parents relish the idea that their children will give their lives to the Supreme Lord. They don't feel comfortable when their children don't pursue the formula for success that they have imbibed from their teachers and parents.

The traditional formula is that the kids have to go to the best schools that teach them how to become successful, and after being equipped with skills, they need to get good-paying jobs that will give wealth, honor and fame.

And after *that*, death comes and takes away everything that they have amassed. That's the story of this world—you can't hang on to anything material when you leave your body.

Wealth

Wise men do not want wealth, honor and fame. That's the trash of this world that's been chewed and discarded over and over again. They seek the eternal, and their parents are disappointed. "Has he become insane?" they exclaim.

No. In fact, he is now becoming sane. The wise person is experiencing the higher taste of spiritual life. He is pursuing real knowledge and education.

The goal of human life is to achieve self-realization—to know who we are and to know who God is.

The goal of life is to be reunited with God. For this, we need no diplomas, no money, no corporate positions, no material qualifications.

It is said in the scriptures that it is the greatest fortune for a parent to have a child who will become a pure devotee of the Supreme Lord. How is this so? When the Supreme Lord is pleased by the love and devotion of a pure devotee, he blesses not only the devotee but also the devotee's family members and relatives.

Prodigal child

Parents should remember that their children are not really theirs. Every living entity is intrinsically a child of the Supreme Father. And as a lost, prodigal child naturally yearns for his real home, the living entity at some point in his life will seek out his eternal Father and this eternal residence.

Even at a young age, Jesus Christ taught his parents what his goal in life was. He disappeared from them for some days to pursue life's real priorities. He did not follow the success formula taught today in materialistic schools. He did not join the rate race for wealth, honor and fame.

In fact, he spoke against that whole system of materialsm. And although his mother did not get to keep him for a long time, he brought his parents and the whole world the greatest good.

Parents who provide real knowledge and assist their children in their spiritual pursuit render service to the Supreme Father and bring good to this planet. On the other hand, those who discourage their children from such an endeavor only bring ruination to themselves and their loved ones.

‘I-Witness’ features four faith healers

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

LAST June 4, Channel 7’s “I-Witness” spotlighted Cheche Lazaro’s “Manggagamot,” a perceptive look at various forms of psychic medical intervention in this country.

Possibility

The subject is rife with possibilities and significant resonances because so many Filipinos believe in at least the possibility that psychic “doctors” *can* heal, and quite a number actually avail of their ministrations as a matter of course, despite the fact that modern man is supposed to venerate the great god, Science.

Clearly, any study of faith healing in the Philippines has to be a complex endeavor, cutting through different levels and contexts of the shared national mind-set and experience, contradictions and all. How can such a complicated subject be crammed into a one-hour program?

Lazaro very wisely decided *not* to do all that, and instead delimited her documentary’s scope by focusing on just four encounters with different kinds of faith healers.

Sack

The first concentrated on “psychic dentistry,” and the “dentist” amazed viewers when he showed them a sack full of the thousands of teeth he had extracted in the recent past. It was a sight that would have made the Tooth Fairy delirious with joy!

Lazaro then had a licensed dentist comment on some of the extractions, and she noted nothing more worrisome than a cracked tooth base here and there. So, the psychic “doctor’s” practice of “divine spiritual dental telekinesis” (ahem) was deemed not to be a major cause for concern.

The second “doctor” was trying to help a young woman who had a mass growing in her stomach. After some treatments, the patient said she felt better, but the prognosis didn’t appear to be as upbeat as she said she felt.

Bloodclot

The third subject was a famous psychic surgeon who removed a big bloodclot from the breast of a middle-aged woman who could be suffering from cancer. After the “operation,” she said she felt much better, but medical tests indicated that the mass was still there.

Did the “surgeon” fake the operation? The blood was analyzed and it was established that it was human, and Type B, the patient’s own blood type. So, the “verdict” was left hanging.

But what was most instructive was the patient’s attitude: despite the results of the medical tests, she chose to believe in the psychic surgeon more than in the doctors who had tested her.

Finally, two paraplegics sought the help of another, less celebrated psychic surgeon. After his ministrations, one of them was able to get up on his feet.

Nurse

The same psychic surgeon had another patient who turned out to be a registered nurse. She had cancer and believed that the “doctor” would help cure her with his psychic ministrations.

Again, the question: Why did this *nurse* believe that psychic “operations” would do more for her than the standard medical treatments for cancer?

Thus did Lazaro’s documentary go beyond medical matters to reveal how deep our belief in psychic intervention remains, despite centuries of scientific and medical breakthroughs.

So, is there more to psychic medicine than meets the jaundiced eye? The final verdict: sometimes—but not often enough for you to place your health and your life exclusively in psychic “doctors’” hands, no matter if all of them facilely attribute their “power” to God.

Study

Allow us to end on a personal note: years ago, as part of our journalistic study of faith healers, the famous “surgeon” “operated” on us to alleviate our bad case of sinusitis.

After fiddling around and poking into our nasal passages for a spell, the “surgeon” triumphantly extracted what he said had been the culprit for our condition all these years: a hard, oblong mass that, upon closer inspection, turned out to be—an eraser!

Erase, erase.

LAZARO. Perceptive look at various forms of psychic medical intervention.

Hollywood’s got a new star named DVD

(From page D4)

DVD set of animated hits “Toy Story” and “Toy Story 2” ranks among the top 20 DVD titles sold.

This fall, Disney plans a DVD of “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,” featuring songs by Barbra Streisand and a new navigational tool that Disney executives say will make DVDs easier and more friendly to use for kids.

New markets

The best-selling DVD remains DreamWorks/Universal’s action hit “Gladiator,” which has sold some 5.4 million units. At an average price range of $18 to $20 for a DVD, that equates to a box office haul of $97 million to $108 million.

But more important than basic sales is that the added movie outtakes, filmmaker interviews and games have made DVD an entirely new product for a new consumer. That means DVD revenues are new cash—“found money”—from an old product that might have been tossed on the heap of film history.

Depending on the number of features in a DVD and the promotion spending backing it, profit margins run in the 50 percent to 60 percent range, which is comparable to VHS now. That means that of the $18 to $20 average cost at retail, the studio is pocketing 50-60 percent of that price.

But the executives point out that it’s not the current profit margins, but the future profit margins that matter most because as more units are cranked out, cost per unit shrinks.

Mix

That means future DVD profit margins should rise while the margins for older, VHS tapes shrink. Following that, the mix of DVD sales to VHS sales among video divisions is changing, too.

Right now, the executives said, DVD sales range from 10 percent to about 35 percent of total home video sales. One said he expects the mix to reach about 40 percent DVD to 60 percent VHS by the end of 2001 and a 50/50 mix next year.

The talk of increasing sales generates the biggest issue surrounding DVD because as sales of DVDs rise in retail stores, the fear is that the rental market will be cannibalized.

Many executives, however, said that issue may not come to a head until next year at the earliest, and most said they did not want to do anything that jeopardized the rental market. They stressed, too, that VHS is still a very viable product.

So the spotlight should continue shining on DVD as sales continue upward, and investors in media stocks will likely hear the star’s name mentioned a lot more in the years to come. *Reuters*

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Writers consider movie sex, violence

WRITERS Russell Banks, left, John Irving, center, and Tom Topor, right, chat before a panel discussion entitled "Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang, Sex and Violence in the Movies." AP

BY JENNIFER SZWEDA JORDAN

LAKE PLACID, New York—John Irving said he deliberately kept sex and violence to a minimum in "The Cider House Rules," but the Academy Award-winning screenwriter passionately argues there should be no limit on a how graphic a film can be.

Inappropriate images

Movies do not need politicians to protect children from so-called inappropriate images, Irving argued during a panel discussion Saturday at the Lake Placid Film Forum.

"What they need is more artistic truth," Irving argued. "What they need is to be more truthful to how people really are."

Forum organizers said they chose the topic because politicians have increasingly blamed Hollywood for social ills. Sen. Joseph Lieberman has pushed for a voluntary system to stop marketing of what he has termed inappropriate movies to youngsters.

"What's wrong with this country is not its movies, but how little we value education," Irving said.

In many ways, Irving, Russell Banks, Francine Prose and Shane Black were of one mind on the topic: All opposed political censorship.

Topics

Irving and Banks approached the topic as writers whose work does not portray violence graphically, or include sex that induces snickers. Neither avoids those topics—but both spoke of working carefully to present stories that explore the complexities of sex and violence.

Irving's 1999 "The Cider House Rules" explored the relative morality of abortion.

Banks' "Affliction" examined two generations of haunted, violent men. Another film, "The Sweet Hereafter," from Banks' novel of the same name, featured an emotionally powerful incest scene.

Banks argued that the point of sex and violence in film should not be titillation or voyeurism, but to produce in the audience a "stunned silence."

"The response you hope to get is that you're bringing home a sacred truth . . . in a way that you can't avert your gaze," Banks said.

Irving urged filmmakers to weigh the use of sex and violence in ways that fit the story.

Doctor

If the movie's ether-addicted doctor played by Michael Caine or the incestuous migrant apple picker had been as harsh as they were in the book "The Cider House Rules," the audience would not have empathized with those characters and the story "would have fallen apart," Irving said.

Black's blockbuster "Lethal Weapon" action flicks in some ways manifested the entertaining violence that Banks and Irving argued against. He made no apologies for himself or his big budget colleagues.

"You don't like titillating violence?" Black asked. "That's fair. Any more questions?" *AP*

RiverMaya leaves BMG for Viva

MONTAGE

THE Rivermaya band recently announced that it had signed an eight-year contract with the Viva Entertainment Group.

The band's contract with BMG Records expired on May 1, 2001, with no option for renewal, leaving the way clear for the band to sign on with Viva.

"We're ready to take RiverMaya to the next level that they deserve," says Vincent del Rosario, CEO of Viva Records.

Wayne Wang movie

Asian director Wayne Wang, who earned his stripes with "The Joy Luck Club" returns to his forte, the story of a mother and daughter struggling through inter-generational tensions in "Anywhere But Here," airing on June 24 at 9 p.m. on Star Movies.

Susan Sarandon and Natalie Portman bring to life the tension and turmoil between an insecure dreamer of a mother and her rebellious, more realistic adolescent daughter.

Cynthia Alexander at the Republic

Singer-songwriter Cynthia Alexander and up-and-coming band Make Your Momma Proud are among the performers this June at the Republic of Malate. Cynthia, who interpreted the second-prize winning song, "Kawikaan" at this year's Metropop Song Festival, performs every Thursday at the Survival Cafe of the Republic of Malate.

Sharing the spotlight with Cynthia is Make Your Momma Proud, composed of Chin Alcantara, Junis Fernandez, Mike Manahan, Julius Bernales, Sonny Nagtalon and Roderick Tupas.

Also performing this month are Lou Bonnevie and Blue Rats today, Fete de la Musique on June 23 and the ABS-CBN Talent Center performers, Carol Banawa, Acoustic Jive, 92 AD and JM Rodriguez on June 30.

Ivy's mall tour

Following the special launch of her album "Ivy at the Movies," Ivy Violan brings her new sound to the malls.

The mall tour kicked off last week at Robinsons Place Manila and continues on June 16 at the Biñan Pavillion Mall and June 22 at Robinsons Imus.

More 'Sex and the City'

Carrie and her friends are back for a brand new season of "Sex and the City"every Tuesday night starting June 19 on HBO.

Executive producers and writers Jenny Bicks and Cindy Chupack disclose where they get their ideas for the series:

"Our ideas really do come from living our lives in New York – going on dates; riding the subway and trying to keep up with the hottest new places. We ask our friends for details and they don't mind one bit. There are a lot of fears women are afraid to voice, but once these things happen on the show, they're liberated."

But the series is not all about sex. It is about the search for meaningful relationships. And some are real relationships that the writers have experienced. For instance, both of them have been in relationships that failed because they were more successful than the men.

The new season premieres on June 19 at 10 p.m. and airs every Tuesday at !0:30 p.m.

New entertainment venue

Publicist Hanzel Villafuerte recently opened an entertainment venue and restaurant called Hanzel Bar and Grille in Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

The restaurant offers Filipino cuisine from grilled and steamed seafood and vegetables to the *binalot* fiesta meals.

Present at the opening were Muñoz City incumbent mayor Efren Alvarez, mayor-elect Nestor Alvarez, and singers Stella Ruiz and Regine Velasquez. (***Compiled by Edmund L. Sicam***)

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Mitch returns to Music Museum

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

ON SUNDAY, June 17, the inimitable Mitch Valdes reprises her one-person musical-comedy act, "Mitching de Abanse," at the Music Museum. We caught the first performance of the show some weeks ago and we had a great time, so we urge you to catch Mitch at her witching, bitching and bewitching best! Call 891-5610.

Judy Ann shifts from drama to comedy

Is Judy Ann Santos out to become the next Maricel Soriano? Time was when that was supposed to be Jolina Magdangal's turf, but it looks like Judy Ann, local TV-films' "drama princess" could also end up as the new "romantic-comedy queen."

In her new film, "Luv Text," Judy Ann plays a spunky college student who's completely love-struck and constantly dreams of her own Prince Charming. Trouble is, the boys she meets in real life fall short of her romantic ideal.

First, she "meets" a mysterious suitor via texting, but eventually finds out that he's only her best buddy, who's been secretly in love with her all this time.

What's Judy Ann to do? She consults her *lola* (Nida Blanca), who advises her to be careful when it comes to dealing with boys. Judy Ann's *lola* herself once lost her true love to another woman.

Challenged, Judy Ann finds herself transported back to her grandmother's time, and she unravels the truth behind the beautiful but failed romance.

Comebacking director Rowell Santiago observes, "In this high-tech age, young people are taking emotions for granted. We need to go back to those times when love was expressed, not just with text messages on cell phones, but with great feeling."

"Luv Text" also stars Wowie de Guzman, Carlo Muñoz, Luis Alandy and Nida Blanca.

Incidentally, it was Nida who paved the way for Maricel Soriano in the romantic-comedy film mode, so her presence in Judy Ann's latest starrer boosts the view that the young star is making a determined shift from drama to comedy, perhaps to give her tearducts a well-deserved rest.

After all, Judy Ann is poised to star in a new TV soap opera, so if she also does tearjerker movies, show biz fans could drown in that lachrymal flood!

Call for Catholic Mass Media Awards nominations

Rev. Fr. Joselito Jopson, Executive Director, and Cella Goduco, head of the Secretariat of the Catholic Mass Media Awards, recently reiterated their call for nominations to the CMMA 2001. The prestigious CMMA awards is an annual recognition of outstanding mass media products in various categories which best reflect Christian social values.

Categories include the trimedia of print, radio and TV, advertising, musical compositions, cinema and starting this year, internet website.

The specific categories are: Advertising—Billboard, Print ad, radio and TV, both product and institutional. Cinema—Best Picture. Music—Album of the Year. Internet—Best Website.

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Print—Business Column, Children's Magazine, Comic Strip, Entertainment Column, Short Story, Special Feature.

Radio (AM or FM)—News or Feature, Counselling and Public Service, Drama Episode, Drama Series, Educational Program, Entertainment Program, News Commentary, News Program and Special Event Coverage.

Television—Adult Educational Program, Business News or Feature, Comedy Program, Drama Program, Drama Series, Entertainment Program, MTV, News Magazine, News Program, Public Service, Special Event Coverage and Talk Show.

JUDY ANN with her leading men, Carlo Muñoz, Luis Alandy and Wowie de Guzman.

Nominations should be submitted to The CMMA Secretariat, 5th Flr. Dominga bldg., 2113 Pasong Tamo cor. De la Rosa st. Makati City. Inquiries can be made thru tel. nos. 812-1833/ 892-4779. Deadline for submission of entries is on July 16.

The awards night is scheduled on Oct. 24, and will be telecast on ABC-5. Winners of the recently-concluded First Student Catholic Mass Media Awards will also be given their awards on Oct. 24.

LAW as Vassili Zaitsev.

Jude Law plays celebrated Russian sniper in 'Enemy at the Gates'

IN THE NEW film, "Enemy of the Gates," while the Nazi and Russian armies hurl rank after rank of soldiers at each other and the world fearfully awaits the outcome of the battle of Stalingrad, the celebrated Russian sniper, Vassili Zaitsev (Jude Law) quietly stalks his enemies one man at a time. His fame, however, soon thrusts him into a duel with the Nazi's best sharpshooter, Major Konig (Ed Harris), and the two find themselves waging an intense personal war while the most momentous battle of the age rages around them.

Ordinary man

Unassuming and self-contained, Vassili is just an ordinary man who performs his duty with extraordinary skill. Realizing his propaganda value, Danilov (Joseph Fiennes), a Soviet political officer, builds this simple soldier from the Urals into a much-needed national hero.

After a string of defeats by the Nazis, the Soviet Union is on the verge of collapse, and the loss of Stalingrad to the invaders could ensure final victory for the Nazis in Europe. Khrushchev (Bob Hoskins) himself has been sent by Stalin to oversee the city's defense.

Vassili's fierce example, as documented by Danilov, boosts the defenders' will to go on fighting despite overwhelming odds. Danilov, however, soon becomes jealous of the man he created when, in the midst of war, they both fall in love with Tania (Rachel Weisz), one of the many courageous women soldiers fighting alongside the men.

The Germans send for their best sniper, Major Konig (Ed Harris), to track down Vassili and kill the man who has become famous in the German as well as Russian ranks. With exquisite patience and skill, each man stalks the other, fighting his war in solitude while countless men are dying all around them in the rubble of Stalingrad.

Exploits

An epic film, "Enemy at the Gates" is based on the story of real-life hero Vassili Zaitsev, whose exploits at Stalingrad form one of the most famous sagas to emerge from the war.

It is produced and directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud and stars Joseph Fiennes, Jude Law, Rachel Weisz, Bob Hoskins, Ron Perlman and Ed Harris. Alain Godard & Jean-Jacques Annaud wrote the film, which is produced by John D. Schofield and executive produced by Alain Godard and Alisa Tager.

Waged in 1942 and 1943, the Battle for Stalingrad was one of the defining moments of World War II and helped shape the political landscape for the rest of the 20th Century. In the summer of 1942, the Nazis launched a massive invasion of Russia, America's ally during the war and the nation bearing the brunt of the fighting against the Germans.

In an amazing feat of logistics and fighting skill, the Nazis crossed 1,000 miles to reach Stalingrad, a major industrial center on the Volga River.

The Germans were confident they could capture the city and thereby cut traffic on the Volga River to southern Russia. The city would also provide a northern anchor for the German drive into the oil fields of the Caucuses, and capturing Stalin's namesake city would be a major propaganda coup for Hitler.

The Soviets put up heroic resistance, however, and Stalingrad was the easternmost point reached by the Nazis in World War II. Germany's failure to take the city marked a turning point in the war, and from that time on, the German army found itself in retreat.

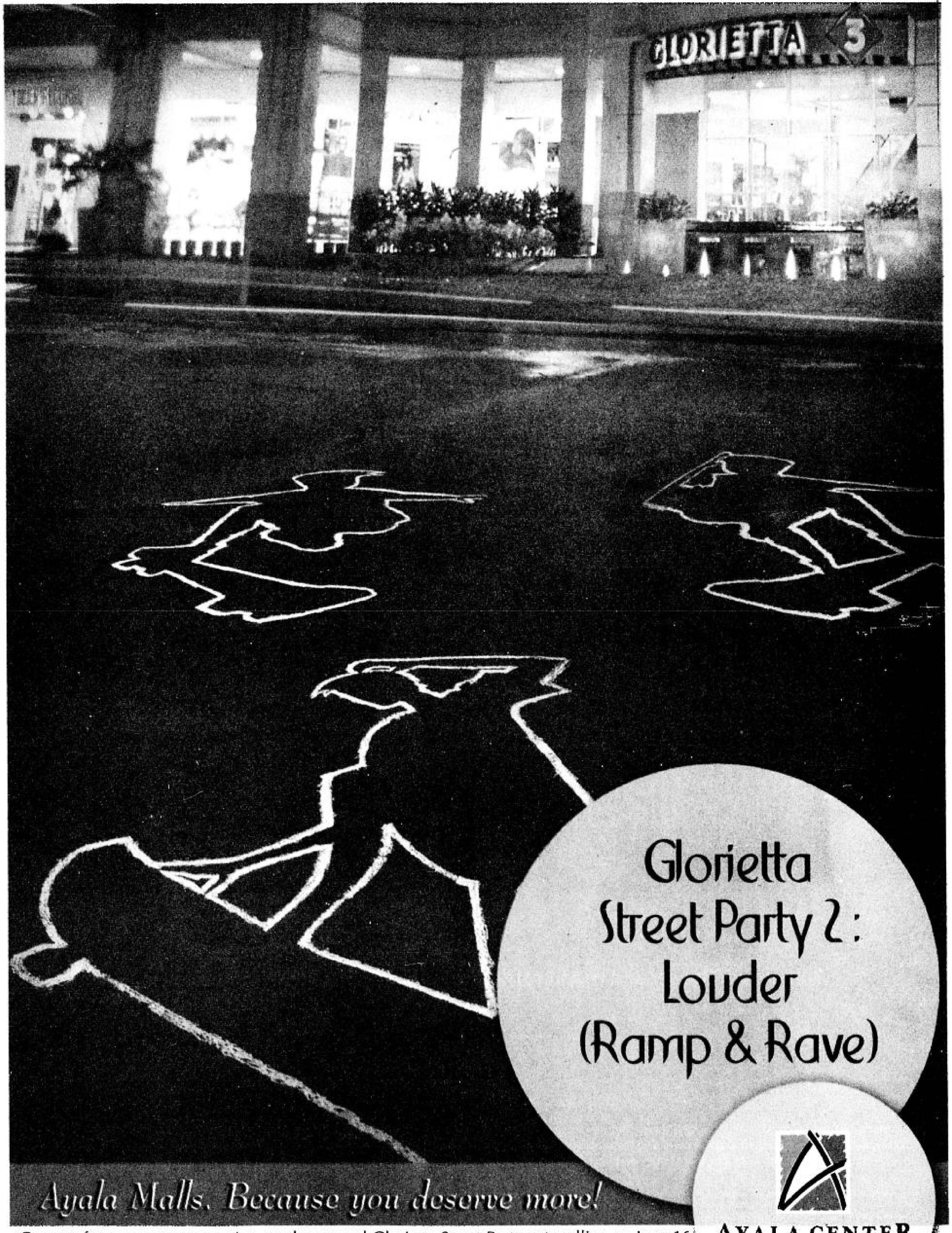
String of defeats

Early in the war, the Soviet Union suffered a string of defeats by the Germans, and the loss of Stalingrad could trigger the collapse of the entire nation. Stalin ordered that the city must not fall, whatever the cost.

Poorly trained and sometimes unarmed Soviet troops were poured into battle, followed by Russian security forces With orders to kill anyone who might try to flee or retreat.

In addition, authorities forced several thousand civilian residents to remain in the city in order to give Soviet soldiers something more than ruined buildings and streets to defend.

Among the city's defenders was the real Vassili Zaitsev, an expert sniper and trainer of other snipers. *(To be concluded)*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WARNER MUSIC PHILIPPINES
FHM

JANET Leigh in the famous shower scene from Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 thriller "Psycho." AP

Film thrills take center stage on AFI countdown

The institute began its annual list three years ago to celebrate America's film heritage and encourage audiences to revisit older films—or in many cases, watch them for the first time

By David Germain

LOS ANGELES—First came the 100 best American movies. After that, the greatest screen legends. Then the funniest comedies.

Next up for the American Film Institute: the 100 most heart-pounding films.

Ritual

Agree with the lists or scoff at the picks, there's no denying this annual cinema ritual has had the effect the group hoped for: More people ponder, debate and take the trouble to view movies they otherwise might have overlooked.

On Tuesday night, the US CBS broadcasting network airs "AFI's 100 Years . . . 100 Thrills," a three-hour countdown of its list of most electrifying American films.

The institute began its annual list three years ago to celebrate America's film heritage and encourage audiences to revisit older films—or in many cases, watch them for the first time.

"It's a crime when gems are made and then no one sees them again just two years later," said Janet Leigh, best known for the terrifying shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho," a film bound to rank high on the list. "The fact that something like this helps revive some of these movies 40 or 50 years later is wonderful."

First list

"Citizen Kane" headed the AFI's first list in 1998 of best American movies. The next list ranked the top 50 film legends, with Katharine Hepburn topping the female list and Humphrey Bogart leading the male roles. Last year, "Some Like It Hot" led the list of best comedies.

Leigh, Steven Spielberg, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Eva Marie Saint are among celebrities who taped interviews for Tuesday's AFI special, reminiscing about thrilling films they made.

"This is a wonderful thing that they're doing," said Saint, who costarred with Cary Grant in Hitchcock's "North by Northwest."

"We're bombarded from every direction with so much entertainment now, that some of these older films could easily be lost," said Saint, who won an Oscar for "On the Waterfront," No. 8 on the AFI's previous list of 100 best American films. "It's great that there are efforts to save and restore older films, but just restoring the names and awareness of the films is just as important:"

The host for the special is Harrison Ford, likely to be well represented in the top 100 list with the "Star Wars" and "Indiana Jones" films and such movies as "Blade Runner" and "The Fugitive."

The list was chosen by about 1,800 actors, directors, studio executives, critics and others in Hollywood, who voted from a list of 400 nominated films.

Nominees

The nominees range from silent classics such as Cecil B. DeMille's "The Cheat" from 1915 and Lon Chaney's "The Phantom of the Opera" from 1925 to the 1999 thrillers "The Matrix," "The Sixth Sense" and "The Blair Witch Project."

The 400 nominated films extend beyond the thriller genre. The list features Buster Keaton's masterpiece of comic stunts, "The General," the supernatural comedy "Ghostbusters," and feel-good sports flicks such as "Hoosiers" and "The Karate Kid."

The annual specials have drawn solid ratings, with 8.6 million households tuning in for last year's show on the best comedies. AFI uses advertising revenue from the specials to help run its programs, which include writing and directing workshops, preservation efforts and an annual film festival.

Some video stores post the AFI lists and set aside shelf space for copies of the movies. Like the Oscars, the AFI lists also spark debate about which movies make the cut and which ones don't.

Jean Picker Firstenburg, AFI's director, said she gets e-mails and faxes from fans complaining about favorite films that failed to make the AFI lists.

Opinion

"Everybody has an opinion. Everybody remembers movies that touched them in this adrenaline-flowing way," Firstenburg said. "That's why you care so passionately if they're on the list or not."

Linda Blair, who became an overnight star as a girl possessed by Satan in "The Exorcist," said she heard from fans who were outraged that the film did not make AFI's list of best American movies in 1998.

"I received phone calls, letters from the public, people saying, 'How could your film not have made the list?'" Blair said.

"The Exorcist" is a shoo-in to make the list of most heart-pounding movies, though Blair said she has no idea how high it will rank.

"Anywhere from one to 100. It's hard to say. Sometimes on lists, we make the No. 1 position, and sometimes we don't make it at all," Blair said. "That's one of the values of this, that it makes people talk and to agree and disagree about things. I think anytime something spurs people to bring on a discussion, whether it's film, politics, religion or life itself, that's all good." *AP*

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SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2001 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER E1

Saturday **SPECIAL**

QUILA ON THE LOOSE!
TEQUILA

From Ricky to Dayanara, Latino singers rule the charts and the airwaves

MARTIN: Charismatic.

By Rito P. Asilo

THE RESURGENCE of programs like "The Latin Jazz Special," hosted by Archie Lacson, over Rajah Broadcasting Network's Hive Radio Café dzRJ 100.3 FM (Sundays, 10-12 midnight) further magnifies the omnipresence of Latino artists on air and on the pop charts.

Roots

On the show, songs by Spanish-speaking performers from South America, Cuba and Spain are featured one after the other. In a country like the Philippines, whose roots include a rich Hispanic past, our predilection for these singers is really not much of a surprise.

But the influence of Latino songs even in countries like the United States, Italy, South Africa and Japan is proof of how much these songs and their interpreters have impressed music lovers around the world.

Among the songs we heard on the program were Mongo Santamaria's "Watermelon Man," Selena's "I Could Fall in Love," Tito Nieves' cover of the Taylor Dayne hit, "I'll Always Love You," and Marc Anthony's "Una Vez Mas," among others.

"Perfidia," another Latino classic that had been interpreted by popular musicians like Nat "King" Cole, Ben E. King, Benny Goodman, Dave Brubeck, Tito Puente, Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey, Mantovani, Perez Prado, Trio Los Panchos, Paul Mauriat and Xavier Cugat, was sang by Vicky Carr.

These names are *not* unknown. Check out your parents' or grandparents' vinyl record collection and you will most likely see them.

The varied origins of these performers are truly remarkable.

Jazz luminaries

No other Cuban percussionist has reached more listeners (except perhaps Santana's Armando Peraza) than Mongo Santamaria, the master *conguero* whose freewheeling Boogaloo music hugely influenced jazz luminaries Chick Corea and Hubert Laws.

Marc Anthony's music fuses rock, merengue, mambo and salsa. He has created a niche for himself as one of the hottest *salseros* since 1993. He may have grown up in New York but his parents were both from Puerto Rico.

He started out writing songs for groups like Menudo and the Latin Rascals, before Salsa royalty Ruben Blades discovered that his talents went beyond composing.

He not only won the first-ever Latin Grammy Awards' "Song of the Year" last year for "Dimelo" (this particular song was released and became popular in the Philippines in its English form, "I Need to Know"), but also the heart of former Miss Universe Dayanara Torres, after the latter gave up on Aga Muhlach, who himself married another former beauty queen, Charlene Gonzales, recently.

Charlene not only replaced Dayanara as host on "Eezy Dancing" but in Aga's heart as well.

Dayanara herself successfully launched a recording career with her 1998 "Antifaz" album after deciding to leave the Philippines for good. We recently caught her on TV when she graced, along with her husband Marc, the recent Miss Universe competition held in Puerto Rico as one of the judges. She was introduced as Ms Dayanara Muniz, using her husband's real family name.

Soundtrack

(Interestingly, even Aga recorded songs for the soundtrack of his solo launching movie, "Campus Beat," after he made a splash in "Bagets.")

Like Marc Anthony, 30-year-old multi-hyphenated artist Jennifer Lopez (1999's "On the 6," 2001's "J. Lo") was born in New York's Bronx district but her parents have Puerto Rican roots. After starting out in critically acclaimed art house hits like Soderberg's "Out of Sight" and her career-turning performance in "Selena," she is now the highest-paid Latina actress in Hollywood.

Similarly, Selena's Tejano music crossed cultural boundaries but her ascent to the top was cut short by her tragic death in 1995, just after releasing her first English album, "Dreaming of

FROM/p.E2

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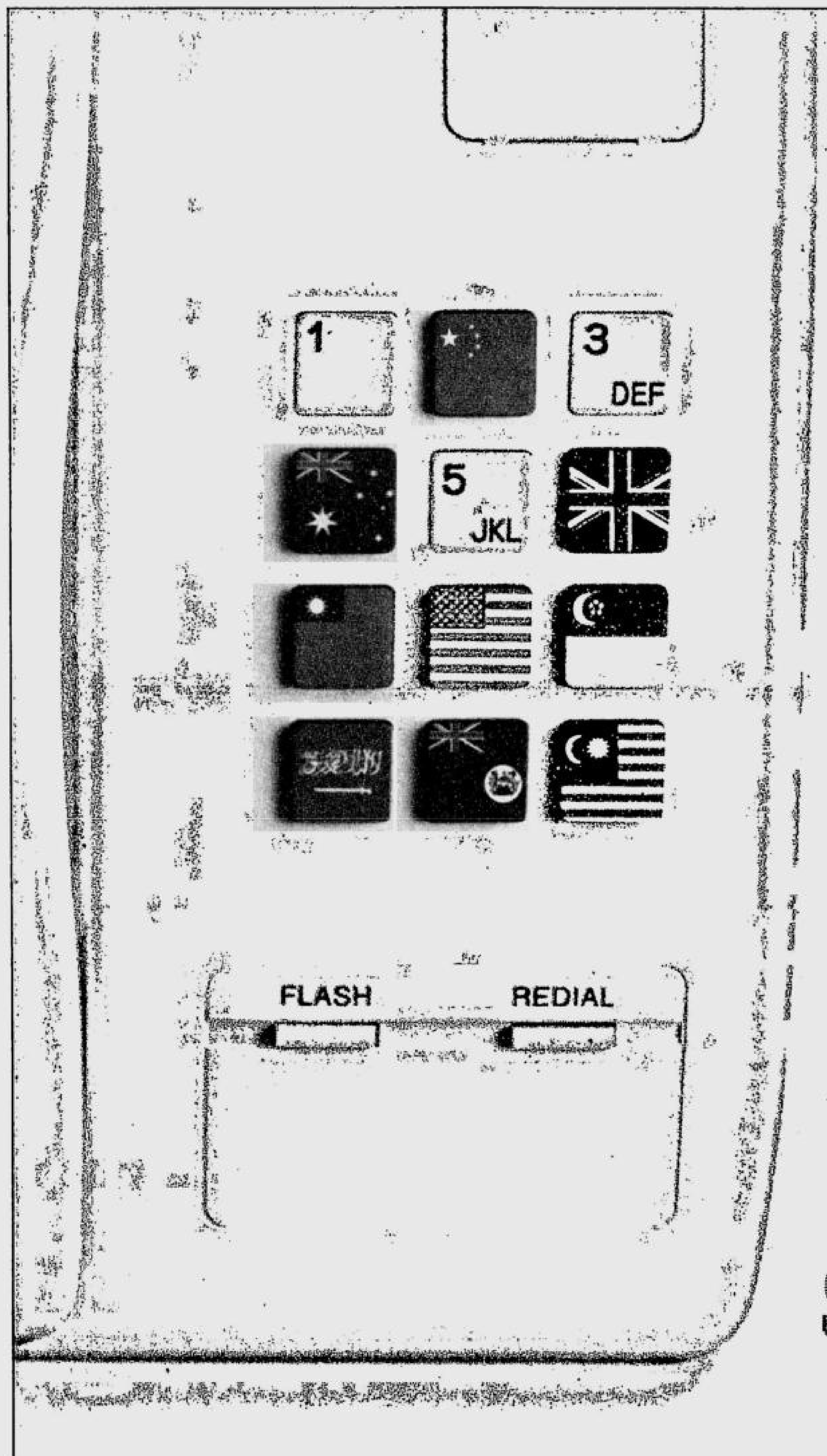

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Goldilocks

From Ricky to Dayanara, Latino singers rule the charts and the airwaves

(From page E1)

You." Her death spawned a reaction not unlike those of John Lennon's, Marilyn Monroe's or Elvis Presley's.

The cult phenomenon didn't end there. Just this year alone, *three* albums by—and recorded as a tribute for—her were released: "The Last Concert," "Canta Como Selena y Gloria Estefan," and "Superpistas."

Of course, the success of Cuba's Gloria Estefan pre-dated the Latin pop explosion by a decade. It was headed by Puerto Rico's extremely charismatic Ricky Martin in the late '90s, and then by Filipino-Spanish Enrique Iglesias.

LOPEZ. Highest-paid Latina actress.

Percussion

The list would be incomplete without mentioning the Salsa King, Ruben Blades, and his cheerful, earthy but politically tinged jazz groove. Blades is known for substituting contemporary arrangements for the usual horns, and Latin percussion sections with synthesizers and drums.

But if there's one Latino singer who can compete with Ricky Martin for the kind of adulation his fans accord him, it is unquestionably Mexican superstar Luis Miguel for his romantic and sensual interpretations.

He is loved for his well-produced albums and strong live performances. One of Gary Valenciano's songs ("Dinggin ang Tawag Mo") was translated from a popular Luis Miguel ditty.

To date, he is the *only* Latino artist to have two Spanish-language albums (1991's "Romance" and 1994's "Segundo Romance") go platinum. He has received three Grammies in the US. His international stardom was heavily recognized last year by the First Annual Latin Grammy Awards with trophies for Best Male Vocal Performance *and* Best Pop Album.

We have never heard a better, more haunting version of "Eres Tu" (culled from his 1987 album, "Soy Como Quiero Ser"). His rendition of classic love ballads from Brazil, Argentina and Mexico are the best you will ever hear from a Latino artist.

Covers

Then there's Tito Nieves' 14-track 1997 album, "I Like It Like That," which contains covers of popular songs arranged in a distinctive salsa beat.

(Imagine Anita Baker's "You Bring Me Joy," Paul Williams' "I Won't Last A Day Without You," Bozz Scaggs' "Heart of Mine" or the Patti Austin-James Ingram duet, "How Do You Keep the Music Playing?" with a Latin beat).

It still enjoys airplay even in jazz stations, despite his having released *two* albums in 2001 ("Yo Quiero Cantar" and "En Otra Onda").

Of course, there's the legendary Spanish crooner, Julio Iglesias. Or, those very visible *telenovela* stars-*cum*-singers, Mexico's Thalia, Venezuela's Fernando Carillo and Mexico's Eduardo Capetillo—but that's another article altogether.

Now, if you think you are too young to listen to these exotic Latino songs, or just sick of being hopelessly romantic and seemingly getting nowhere being one, why not recall how safe and emotionally secure it was to be a child—free from all the emotional baggage that most adults suffer through and endure?

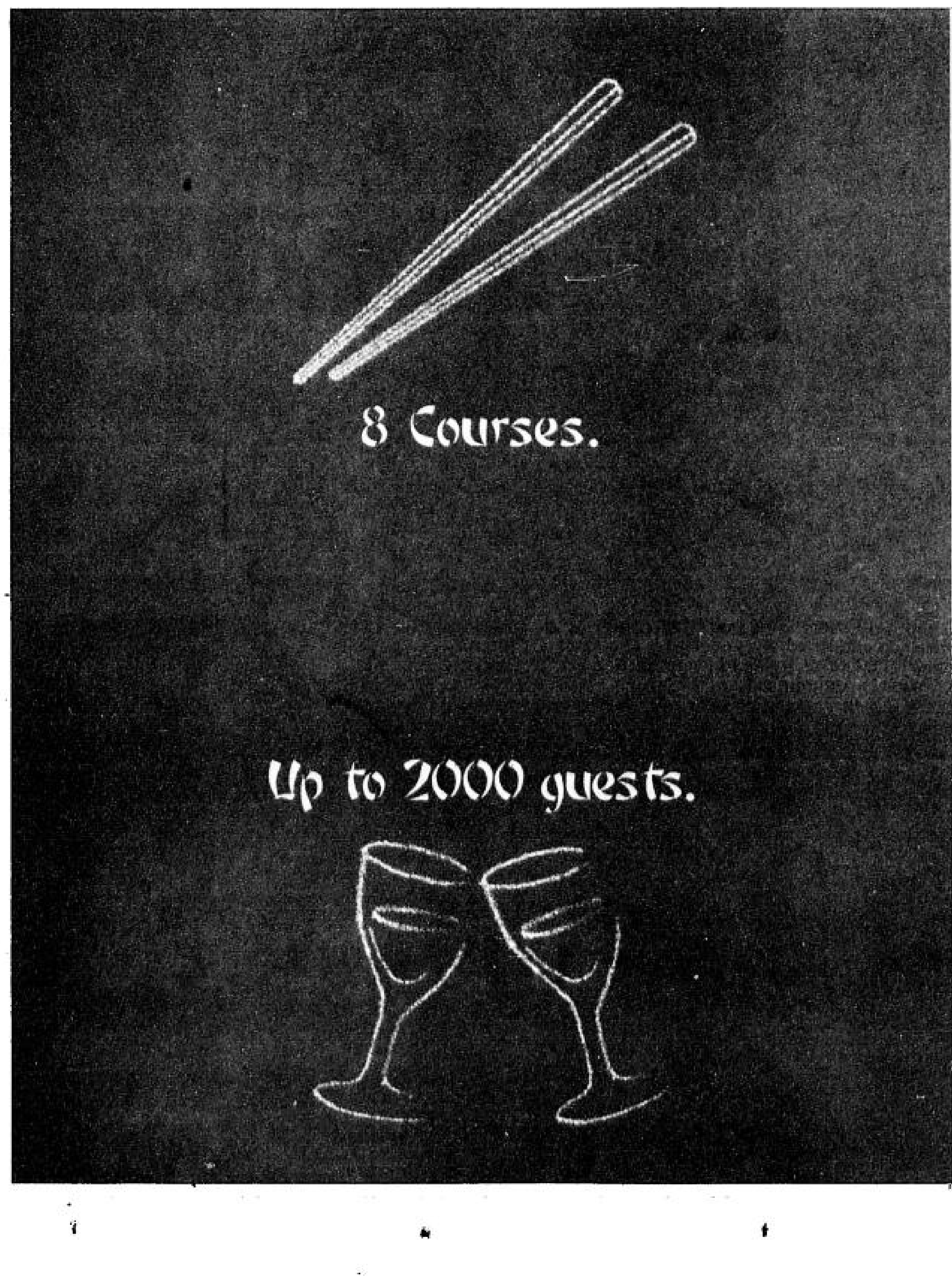
Yes, we have the perfect radio show for you: "Magandang Tanghali, Bata," hosted by Ate Tina (M-F, 1-2 p.m., 1566 kHz) on the AM band's Radio Air Force.

Carefree

On the show, you will hear songs that you learned as a carefree, worry-free child: "Where Have You Been, Billy Boy?," "B-I-N-G-O," "'Round The Mulberry Bush," "Do The Hokey Pokey," "Old McDonald Had A Farm" or "Popeye The Sailor Man." We realized that we have either already forgotten the lyrics of these songs or have been mouthing the wrong lyrics all along!

Ate Tina offers simple reminders to kids (garbage and laundry management; helping Mom and *yaya* with house chores), and tells fairy tales or children's stories on the show.

It was "Little Red Riding Hood" when we tuned in, and despite our not being five years old anymore, we still enjoyed listening to the exciting adventure with the wolf. But we suggest that a short moral lesson should be explained by the host after telling the story, so that it can also be a learning experience for its listeners—for the children and the young at heart.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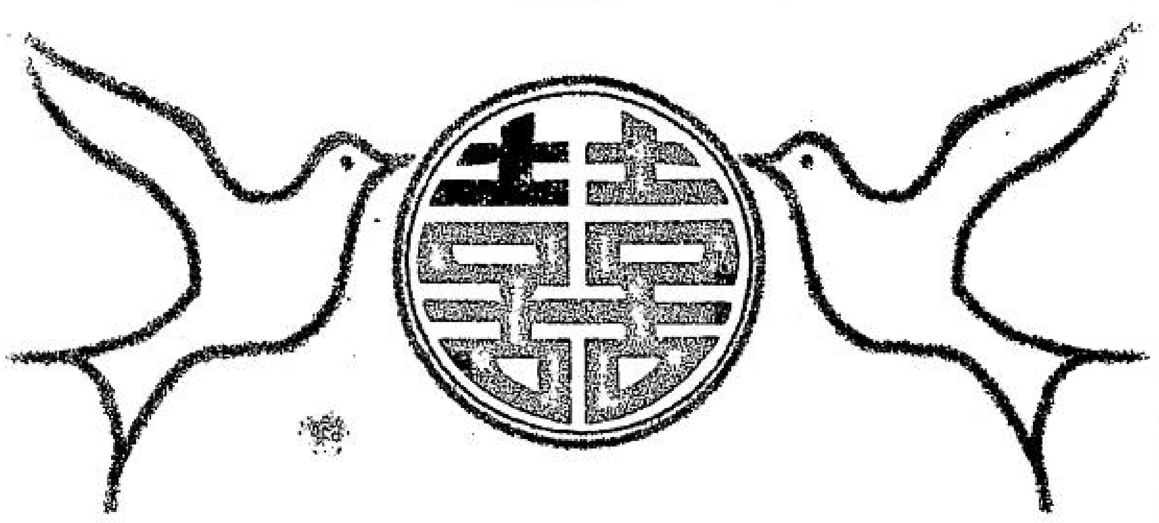

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Young screenwriters top FDFPI awards

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST May 25, the Film Development Foundation of the Philippines honored the 10 winners of its screenwriting contest for the year 2000. The competition had a "Pelikulang Pambata" theme, and it's hoped that our movie studios will film some of the winning entries, to add to our rather small body of movies for or about children.

Graduate

Topping the contest was a graduate of the foundation's screenwriting workshop, who is quite young herself. Mitchiko S. Yamamoto won the first prize of P70,000 for her script, "Magnifico, Madyikero," the story of a boy and his grandfather.

Ever since she took the 1999 workshop, we've known that Mitch had a special talent for writing. When we had her batch do a 20-minute script to see how well they told a story, created characters and wrote believable, interesting dialogue, hers was the only script that we had the class read aloud and discuss in detail.

Emotions

At the end of the reading, many of the workshoppers were in tears, touched by Mitch's gentle way with emotions. Later that year, she was voted as one of the finalists in the foundation's annual screenwriting tilt. Since she's so young, her first prize this year is only the start of what we trust is a long and productive screenwriting career.

Incidentally, Mitch bowled the audience over last May 25 when she revealed that she had dilly-dallied before deciding to join the scriptwriting tilt, so she had to write her script in only one day!

The second prize went to Divine Love A. Salvador for "Bochog." Divine Love candidly shared that her film about a fat girl was based on her own experiences as an overweight child.

Sensitivity

In third place was workshopper Rica Arevalo, who won the top prize in the foundation's screenwriting competition some years ago. Her script, "Pamilya," evinces her innate sensitivity and perceptive insights.

The seven other finalists, who each won P10,000:

Joselito delos Reyes for "Sa Lihim ng mga Bituin." Angelo C. Hernandez for "Sugo-Saga." Rommel B. Rodriguez for "Bayan Ni Bayani."

And workshoppers Jonathan S. Espiritu ("Yokabibs"), Clarissa N. Estuar ("Ako at ang Aking Kababata"), Jose B. Serrato ("Little Star") and Geonard B. Yleana ("Munting Ulap").

New studio

Incidentally, Espiritu has already sold a script to a major film company, Serrato's script on billiards has been purchased for production by a new studio, and Yleana's "Lihim" has similarly been optioned for production. Is there life after winning honors in screenwriting contests? Definitely.

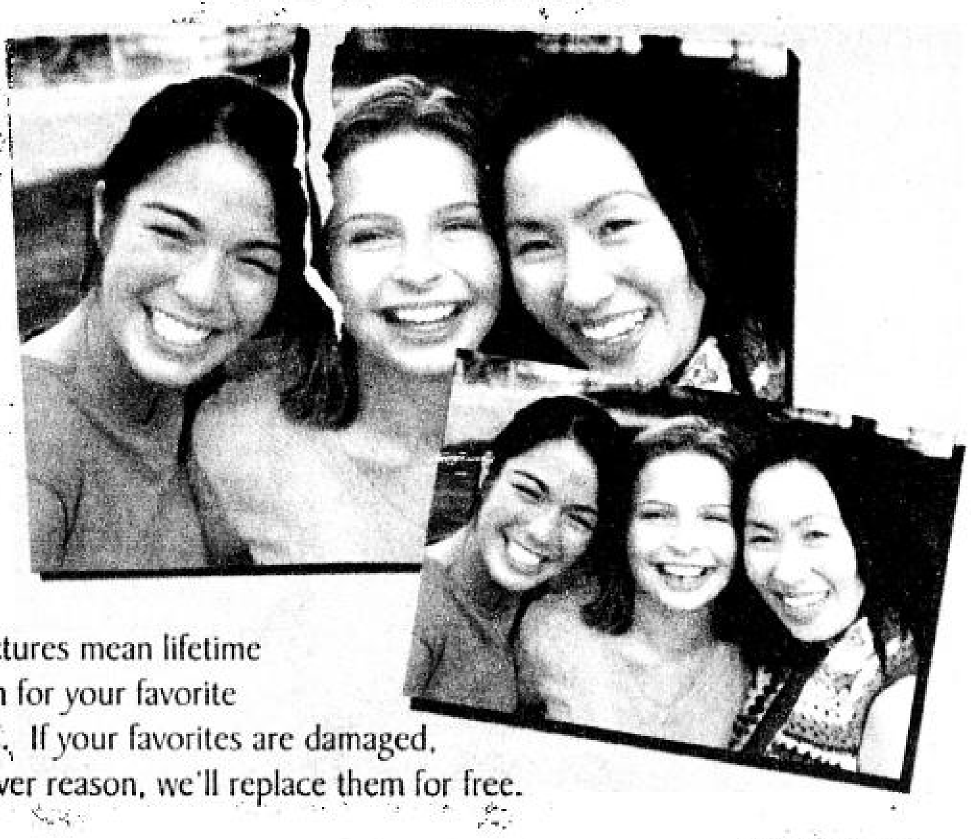
The Year 2000 winners were grateful to the important film people and other guests who made the awards ceremony an even more special occasion for them: Outgoing FDFPI president Marichu Maceda, foundation executive Pete Roa, new FDFPI trustees Laurice Guillen and Maan Hontiveros, Maryo delos Reyes, Doy del Mundo, and foundation stalwarts Lynn Pareja and Lillette Umali.

Foothold

The honored guests urged the prizewinners to keep writing outstanding scripts and promised to help them establish a foothold in the local TV and film industries. For their part, the awardees promised to stick to their guns and do their best work for the TV-movie industries that are in such dire need of fresh talents like them.

FILM DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.
YEAR 2000 SCRIPTWRITING CONTEST

THE WINNERS (top row) with the foundation's Lillette Umali and Dr. Lynn Pareja and (seated) Laurice Guillen, Marichu Maceda, NUT, Pete Roa, Ma-an Hontiveros, Maryo delos Reyes and Doy del Mundo.



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Claudine Barretto opens up regarding Rico Yan

By Edmund L. Sicam

CLAUDINE Barretto was upset about the rumors that came out about her supposed split-up with screen and real-life boyfriend Rico Yan when she faced the press recently. Throughout their three-year romance, there have been many rumors of a break-up, but they never gave them much attention.

"All I know is that may *mga naglalabas ng balitang ganoon*, then two or three months ago, *iyung kay* Sabrina. I think it's unfair *kay* Rico *at kay* Sabrina M, *ganoon ka*-petty *na tsismis* . . ."

Rumors

The actress says that she and Rico know who has been spreading these rumors about them, but she refuses to divulge her name. She admits it's someone close to them and they have already confronted her about the issue. "*Masakit para sa akin kasi kaibigan namin,*" she winces.

She is also so obviously hurt because it seems this girl was someone she trusted. She vehemently denies that episodes like these are exclusive to the show biz industry.

Claudine does admit that she and Rico have been having "petty problems" lately. "Two days ago, *nagkaroon kami ng maliit na tampuhan, kasi siguro* we don't get to see each other as much as before, but we fixed it already."

Claudine admits that it is precisely petty quarrels like these that can lead to big problems, if not faced right away.

Another thing that bothers Claudine is that some people are saying that this whole break-up rumor is just to promote their new movie. Claudine vehemently denies this. "That's painful *kasi . . . malas sa* relationship *iyon, di ba*?" she asks around the table. "*Sabihin mo, para sa* gimmick *lang* you broke up, I don't think that's proper, I don't think we would want to do such a thing."

BARRETTO. Doesn't like competing with anybody.

No marriage plans

She and Rico have been together for three years now but she says that marriage is still the farthest thing from their minds. "*Gusto ko pag mga* 26, 27 *na ako*. (I'm turning 22 in July, Rico is 26)."

Can Rico wait? "He'll have to," is Claudine's quick reply. "*Di pa rin gusto ni* Rico *magpakasal*," Claudine stresses.

The working title of their latest movie is "Got to Believe in Magic," after the David Pomeranz '80s hit, and it is being directed by Olivia Lamasan. Asked if she believes in magic, Claudine answers, "*Naniniwala ako*, weird but true. *Ako, naniniwala ako na* love, if it's true love, *talagang may* magic. *Ang dami-dami ng mga tao sa mundo para kayong dalawa ang magkita*."

Being tagged as the soap opera princess, she is asked if she looks at GMA's Angelika de la Cruz as competition. "I don't like competing, although in show business, *hindi maiiwasan iyon*. Rather than focusing on competing with someone, I'd rather focus on doing my work properly and giving my best."

Does she see herself still doing soap operas three years from now? Claudine turns to the Talent Center's Deo Endrinal for the answer.

Deo replies, "*Pag-uusapan iyan kasi* in all the time blocks, the biggest audience share is really in that primetime slot where the soap operas are. So in terms of audience, the reach, the people *na maaabot niya kung nandoon siya sa* time block *na iyan, mas malaki talaga iyung* market *na maabot niya*, which would eventually also be good for her movies."

Growth

To keep growing as an artist, Claudine acts in films. "I did an action comedy with Robin (Padilla), now I'm doing a light romance comedy." Deo says that, every now and then, Claudine will do episodes for "Maalaala Mo Kaya" and anniversary specials. Claudine shares that she is the new Darna on television—a character called Stara, who will come out on the TV show, "Wansapanatym" on June 27.

So, what does the soap opera princess do when she is not in front of the cameras? She says she likes joining more workshops at the ABS-CBN talent center. She feels that it is not really work, but can be considered a form of release. Other than that, she prefers playing with her nephews and nieces at home. She also likes to read books. Her latest favorite is "Tuesdays with Morrie," which she is reading for the fifth time. She says that she is not into the nightlife anymore. "I don't go out anymore. It's tiring—*mag-aayos ka na naman . . . siyempre* when you work all day, *ayaw mo nang lumabas na naka*-makeup *at nakabihis ka*!" But she and Rico sometimes go malling, eat out, watch a movie, or just stay home and watch DVD.

'The Anniversary Party' is a self-indulgent film

By Christy Lemire

NEW YORK—You know how sometimes you tell a story, and you think it's really funny, but no one else gets it? Well, guess you had to be there.

Tell that story for about two hours and you have "The Anniversary Party."

Alan Cumming and Jennifer Jason Leigh co-wrote and co-directed the movie, tailoring the roles with themselves and their friends in mind.

Intimate mood

They definitely achieve the intimate mood they sought. Cumming and Leigh play Joe and Sally Therrian, a couple celebrating their sixth wedding anniversary, and you feel like you're privy to their small circle of friends—all of them actors, musicians, writers or filmmakers.

But that doesn't mean you'll want to hang out with these people, who are self-absorbed before they take Ecstasy and increasingly more annoying afterward.

Relationships

You'll be a little more likely to want to spend 24 hours in this crowd if you know the relationships between the actors, but not much more.

Kevin Kline and Phoebe Cates, real-life husband and wife, play a married couple. He's an award-winning actor, she's a former starlet who became a wife and a mom. Sound familiar? It will only if you know the story of Kline and Cates.

Even the couple's real-life children, Owen and Greta, play their kids in the movie.

Cates and Leigh have a connection, too. They first performed together nearly 20 years ago in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," the classic teen movie that made them stars.

Then there's Gwyneth Paltrow, who plays a beautiful, blond ingenue, which is exactly what she was about six years ago, before her best-actress Oscar, before Brad Pitt and Ben Affleck.

Meanwhile, Leigh and Cumming—who co-starred on Broadway in "Cabaret"—play a couple who have recently reconciled after a yearlong split, and view this anniversary as a chance to start over.

She's an actress who's hit her peak; he's a novelist directing his first film, an adaptation of one of his books.

They amass their closest friends to their open, minimalist Hollywood Hills home (easily one of the movie's best parts) for an evening of food, wine and song—and later, drugs and skinny-dipping.

Structure

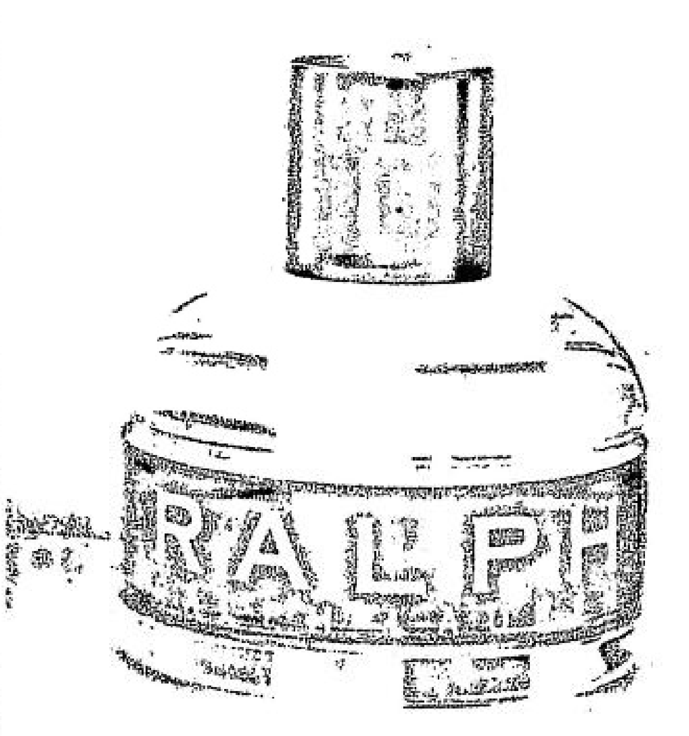
It would be too easy to call this an updated version of "The Big Chill," especially since Kline was in that 1983 movie. Its structure is similar: A group of close friends gets together, eats and drinks too much, and resentments and secrets from the past rear their ugly heads.

But toward the end, it's more like "The Big Shrill," especially as Joe and Sally scour the hillside for their missing dog and screech at each other in a drug-induced fury.

Dialogue in the first half of the film is crisp and authentic; conversations fall to a lull at times, perfectly natural at a party.

By shooting on digital video, director of photography John Bailey gives the film a feeling of immediacy. And several actors stand out from the ensemble cast, which includes Parker Posey, John C. Reilly and Jennifer Beals.

Paltrow takes a risk making fun of her own image, and it pays off. It's great to see Cates in a feature film again, especially playing off Leigh. Kline always brings great presence to every role. *AP*



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JUNE 19-24 WHITE GOLD CLUB
JUNE 26-JULY 1 RUSTAN'S
JULY 3-8 PRINCE MANDAUE

LUZON
JUNE 15-17 SOUTH SUPERMARKET LOS BAÑOS
JUNE 29-JULY 1 SOUTH SUPERMARKET STA. ROSA
JULY 6-8 ULTRA MEGA BULACAN

DAVAO
JUNE 14-17 MARBEL FITMART
JUNE 19-22 MARBEL ACE
JUNE 23-27 KCC SHOPPING MARBEL
JUNE 28-JULY 1 TACURONG FITMART

If you could view only one local TV channel, which would it be?

By Noelani Torre

EVER since the age of television dawned in this country, TV channels have been fighting tooth and nail over prospective viewers. These days their competition has reached a new peak.

Self-advertisement

Everytime we tune in to any of them, we are inevitably subjected to 20 to 30 seconds of brash self-advertisement. One network styles itself "Asia's most admired" and another is "where you belong." They try to outdo each other from the number of satellites they have to the awards they've received.

Now they're targeting the younger generation, letting loose a plethora of cell phone-toting, Taglish-speaking teen stars claiming to be hip and fresh. Are their tactics working?

We asked some young people about their channel preferences. To be more specific, we asked which TV channel they would pick if they had only one to choose from. The majority of our respondents agreed on Studio 23, while Channels 2 and 9 received one vote each. Their decisions were based on similar reasons—some placing an emphasis on what a channel does *not* have to offer as well as on what it does.

No variety shows

Here are the TV stations our teens wouldn't want to lose, and why:

"Studio 23. Why? Because there are no variety shows in it! I hate those shows, they're always exploiting the poor, making them look like moneygrubbers. They exploit women too, and even the obese! There's this one show that makes fun of the poor things.

"The other thing I like about Studio 23 is its news program, which they telecast later at night. I don't want to listen to the news on prime time, I want to watch my favorite shows. 'Points of View' airs here. They discuss juicy topics, but what really makes this show different is the hosting—four people, four different views. They don't always agree so they debate over it and it's stimulating. Jessica Zafra one of the hosts and you know how she is, she's—Jessica Zafra!

"I also think I'm a sucker for some American shows—'Angel,' '7th Heaven,' 'Charmed,' 'Dawson's Creek.' Plus, this channel has 'MYX,' a kind of music video show. Studio 23 has a very well-rounded set of programs—and no variety shows!"—*Eunice Quiñones, 18, Mandaluyong City*

Sitcoms

"Channel 9, RPN. Usually, I can only watch TV at night and I prefer what RPN has. They're mostly sitcoms, foreign ones. And since they're foreign, they don't really have much to do with our culture. Like this show, "Once Again," about two people who are divorced--we don't have that in the Philippines. But maybe that's why I like it, because it's different.

"I don't think I really have that much of a choice anyway. Most of the local shows in other channels are all the same—predictable. You can usually guess the ending—happy, of course. In the foreign shows, you'll know that the ending is probably going to be happy too but a lot happens in the middle. You'll stay and watch because you know something '*kakaiba*' is going to happen.

"In the local shows, the sequence and general atmosphere is the same—'*may tarayan, may* deception, etc. Boring! And who wants to be bored while watching TV?

"If you'll notice, most of the shows that appeal to our generation are the ones based on foreign shows, transposed to a Filipino setting. So that means we're tired of the usual local formulas."—*Estelle Villar, 17, Parañaque*

Favorites

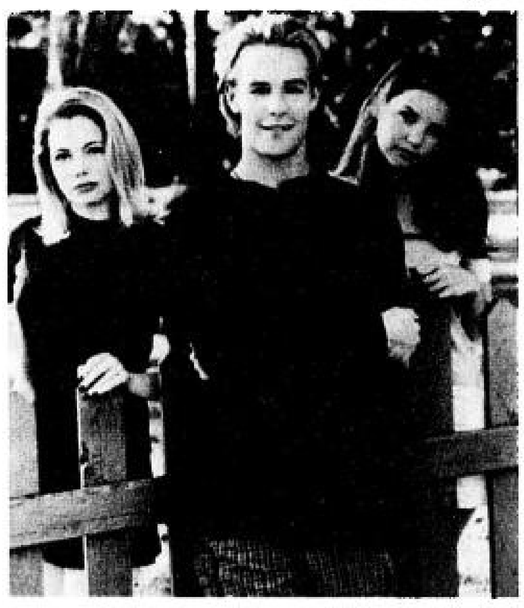
"I'm not an avid TV viewer but when I do sit in front of the set I almost always tune in to Studio 23, so I guess that would be my pick. It has a great variety of programs, even music television. They also have a lot of shows for teens, like 'Dawson's Creek.' My favorites are 'Exposed,' 'Survivor,' and 'Charmed.'

'Exposed' is very fascinating. I like the way it reveals 'secrets' and 'mysteries' without being too mysterious about it. Very informative. 'Survivor' is also interesting. You tend to pay attention because these are people dealing with real things. I think it's also a chance for us to apply our psychological skills.

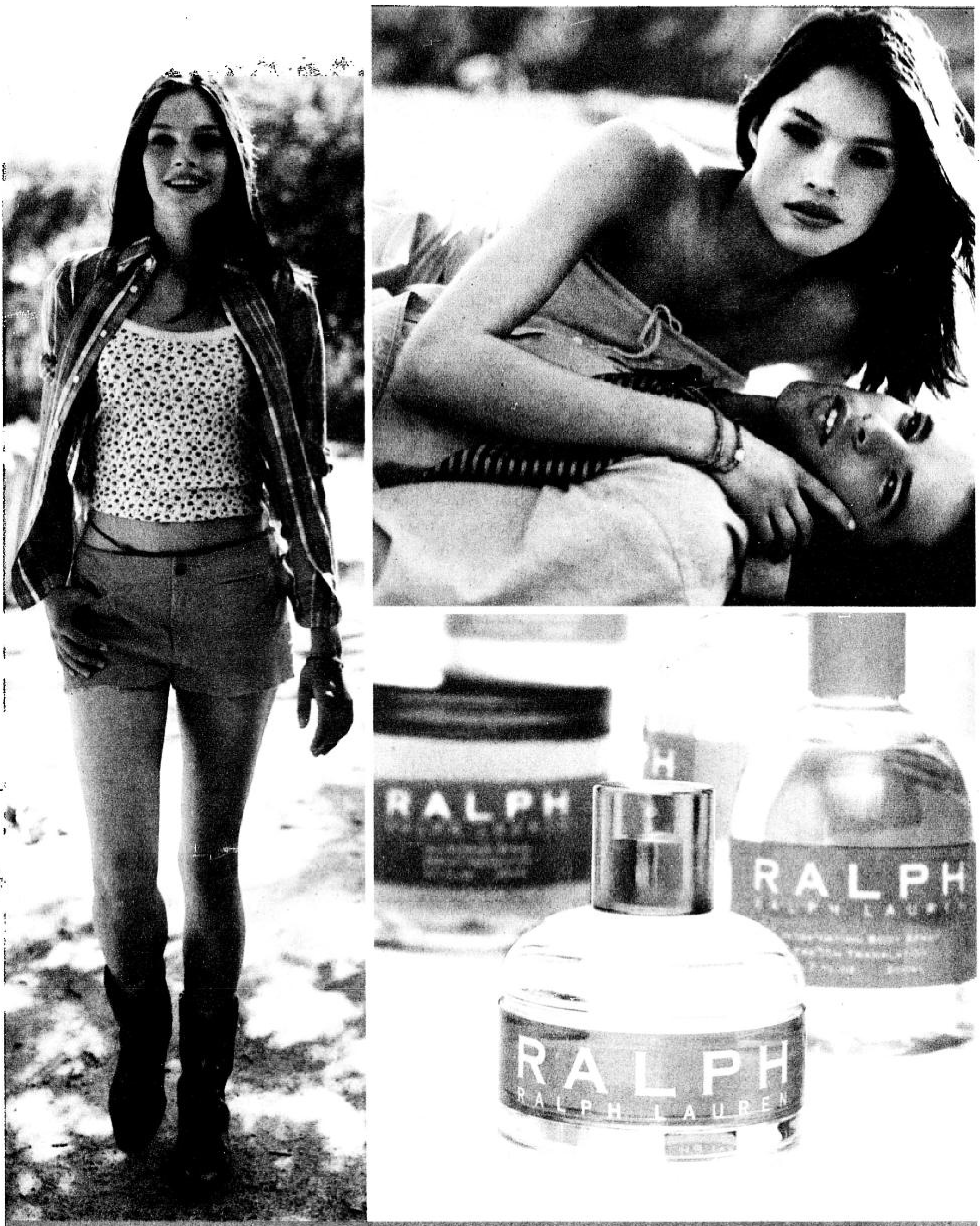
"Studio 23 also has movies. So if there aren't any good ones showing on cable, you have another choice. A very good thing about this channel is that it has no variety shows, no near-naked ladies parading around, *lantaran talaga*. I don't like that."—*Pamela Lloren, 18, Quezon City*

"Channel 2, ABS CBN. I think this station has real star power. I admire their ability to market themselves, *magaling silang magpasikat*. You have to be superconfident and gutsy to do that. I usually watch

IF YOU COULD/p.E7



"DAWSON'S CREEK." A favorite of teeners.



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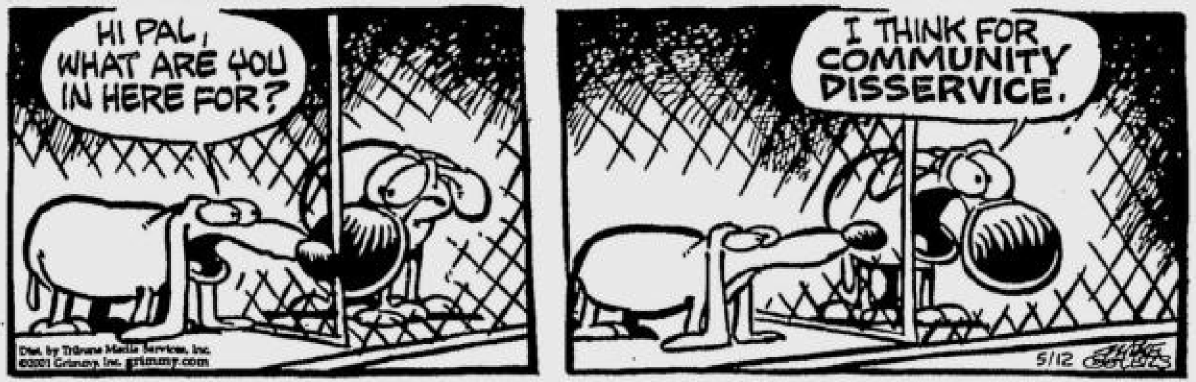
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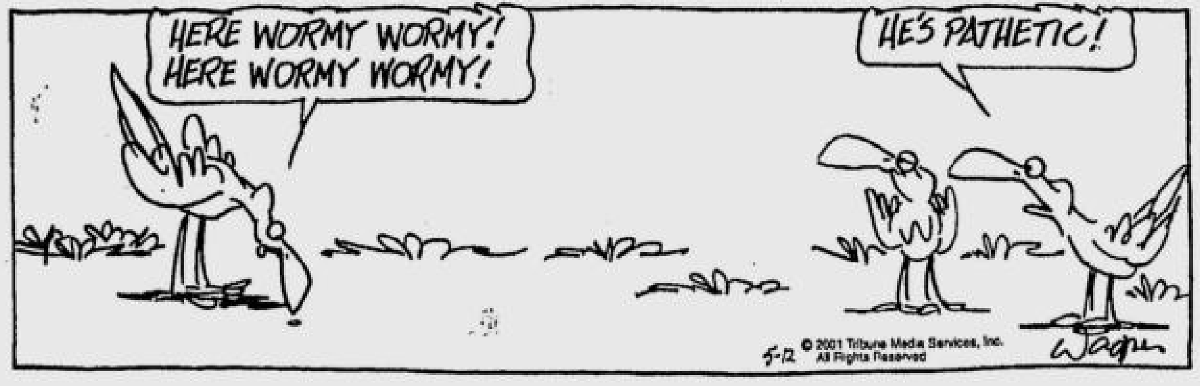
BY FRED WAGNER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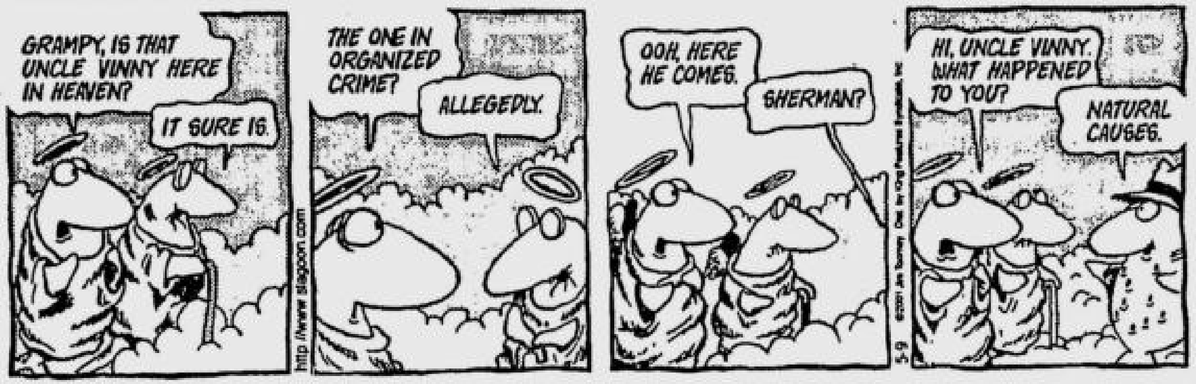
Wagner

SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


GRAMPY, IS THAT UNCLE VINNY HERE IN HEAVEN?
IT SURE IS.
THE ONE IN ORGANIZED CRIME?
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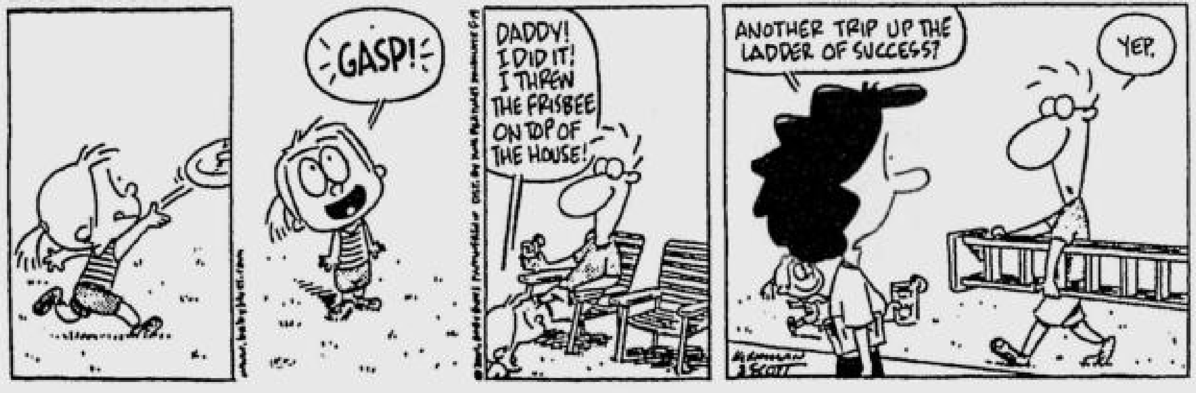
OOH, HERE HE COMES.
SHERMAN?
HI, UNCLE VINNY. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
NATURAL CAUSES.

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT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DADDY! I DID IT! I THREW THE FRISBEE ON TOP OF THE HOUSE!
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KIRKMAN SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joyce Carol Oates, Joan Van Ark, Roberto Duran, Frederick Koehler, Laurie Metcalf, Tupac Shakur

Happy Birthday: You're eager to take part in as many different and unique projects as possible this year. You're willing to contribute to causes you believe in. Your progressive approach will attract a lot of attention and bring the type of connections that can help you get ahead. Your numbers: 22, 26, 29, 34, 41, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your ability to pull in extra cash will help pay those unexpected bills. Changes in your position will lead into new territory that will be more profitable than working for someone else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your partner must be included in all your plans if you don't want to face the music later on. This is not the time to neglect the one you love, even if you do want some space.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You aren't too sure what you want to do. Boredom is always a problem. To add more spice and stimulation to your life, consider starting your own business or take a creative course.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your mate will not be pleased if you've been flirting with others again. Keep your thoughts to yourself or risk being lonely.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't look now, but someone is admiring you from afar. You are highly popular and mustn't miss opportunities because you are too lazy to go out and get involved.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't be afraid to display some of your creative work. You'll be surprised by the number of people who will pay top dollar. It's time to give yourself a little credit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let delays alarm you. Improvements to your living quarters will be more enjoyable than you ever imagined. Don't be afraid to go one step further. You will make the right choices.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Plan an interesting day for you and your lover. You understand each other's needs and are both in the mood for closeness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your need to make beautiful, unique creations will lead you to the hobby shop. Those you live with will pay attention, and your talent will finally be recognized.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Spend time with older individuals who don't have much companionship anymore. Your kind words and interest will be rewarding in many ways.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The personal changes going on around you must be confusing. Don't take what others say too seriously. Do what's best for yourself and don't worry about what others think or say.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Time spent with old friends or relatives will be uplifting and enjoyable. You can meet potential mates through family. Be sure to let them know if you're interested as they may be shy, too.

Birthday Baby: You are energetic and inquisitive, which can lead to all sorts of excitement and adventure throughout life. You have the drive, determination and discipline to reach your set goals.

DAILY CROSSWORD

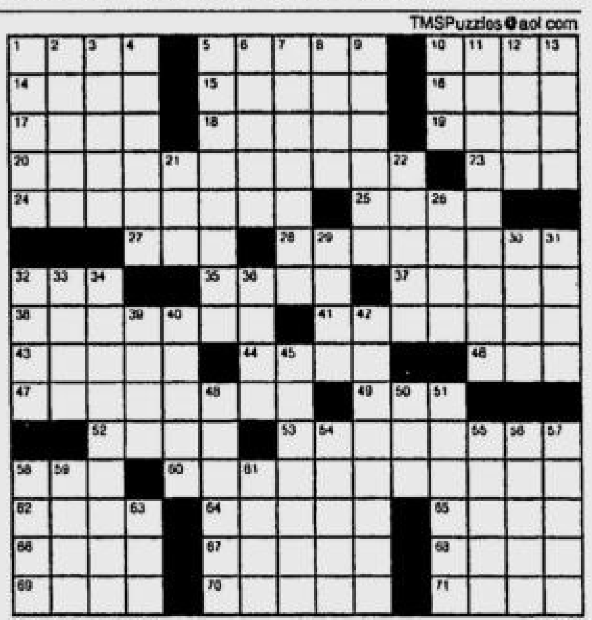
TMSPuzzles@aol.com

ACROSS

1 Cradle call
5 Clip sheep
10 Stuffed shirt
14 Designer Cassini
15 "As You Like It" role
16 "Rape of the Lock" poet
17 Extensive
18 Large antelope
19 Opera song
20 McMurtry novel, with "The"
23 Kennedy or Williams
24 IOU defaulter
25 Wealthy
27 Qty.
28 Opportunely
32 Stately tree
35 City on the Brazos River
37 Release
38 Handyman's tote
41 Catch
43 Lid
44 Small landmass
46 Occupant: abbr.
47 Having the most thorns
49 The Greatest
52 Paradise
53 Most frequently
58 Gore and Capp
60 Meteor
62 Ballerina's skirt
64 Brawl
65 Ditty
66 By mouth
67 Baking chambers
68 Icelandic poem
69 Salon do, for short
70 Vegetable skins
71 Dennis the Menace, e.g.

DOWN

1 Did the lawn
2 Kicking partner?
3 Tragedy by Euripides
4 Meeting outline
5 Second part of an act
6 Hagar the Horrible's lady
7 Stretchable
8 "__ Misbehavin'"
9 Detection devices
10 Health retreat
11 Polaris
12 Mayberry boy
13 Rosary element
21 Big Blue computer?
22 Cambodian cash
26 Normandy town
29 Christmas carol
30 Folklore monster
31 Negatives
32 Customary extras, briefly
33 Part of a bow
34 Matinee idol
36 Allies' foes
39 Allow to use
40 Succinct
42 Apple-pie order
45 Yeast bread with nutmeats
48 Captivate
50 Part of a table or journey
51 Part of a foot
54 Demon
55 Practice piece
56 "__ of Iwo Jima"
57 Tasty goody
58 Resting on
59 Fisherman's decoy
61 __ Strauss
63 Einstein's birthplace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By Holden Baker
Greenfield, MA

5/1/01

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	S	S	A	M	■	R	A	M	P	■	M	A	S	H
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M	O	T	■	G	H	O	S	T	■	N	I	E	C	E
■	■	O	N	A	I	R	■	■	S	U	N	D	E	R
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E	D	A	M	■	S	I	T	S	■	U	B	O	A	T
S	E	R	A	■	A	N	A	T	■	P	I	N	T	S

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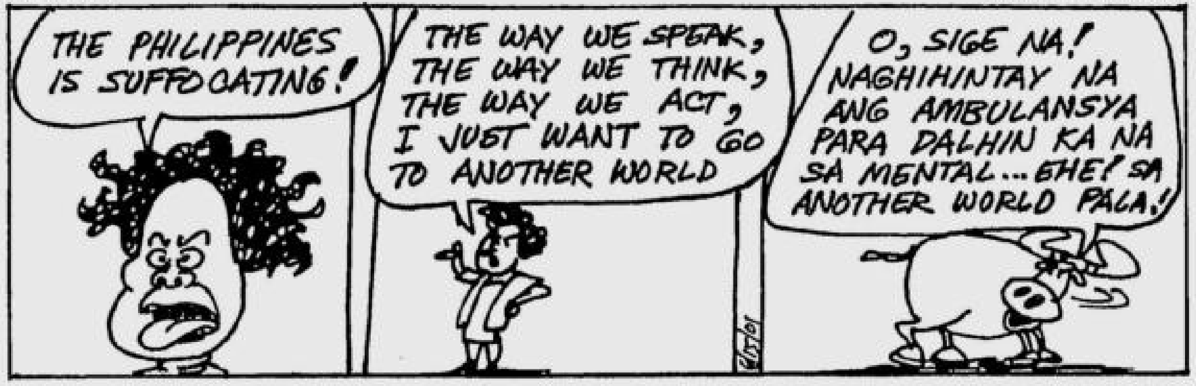
5/1/01

ANSWER ON MONDAY

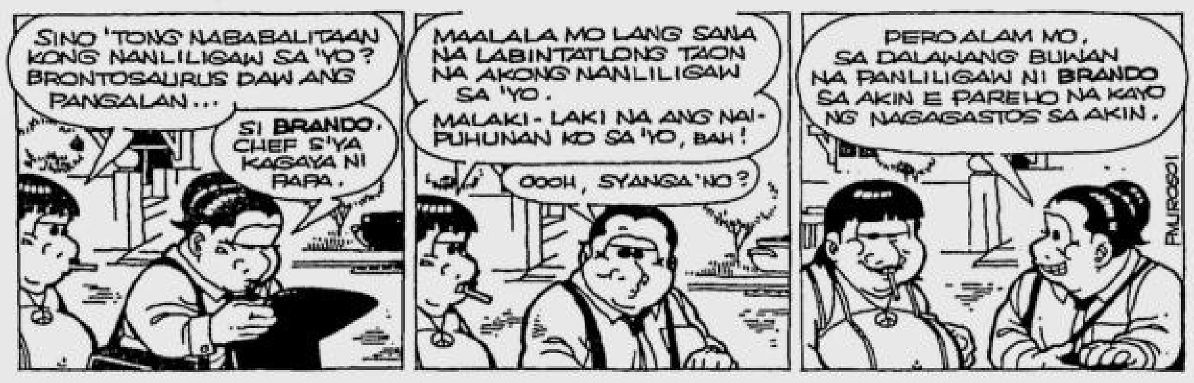
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


THE PHILIPPINES IS SUFFOCATING!
THE WAY WE SPEAK, THE WAY WE THINK, THE WAY WE ACT, I JUST WANT TO GO TO ANOTHER WORLD
O, SIGE NA! NAGHIHINTAY NA ANG AMBULANSYA PARA DALHIN KA NA SA MENTAL... EHE! SA ANOTHER WORLD PALA!

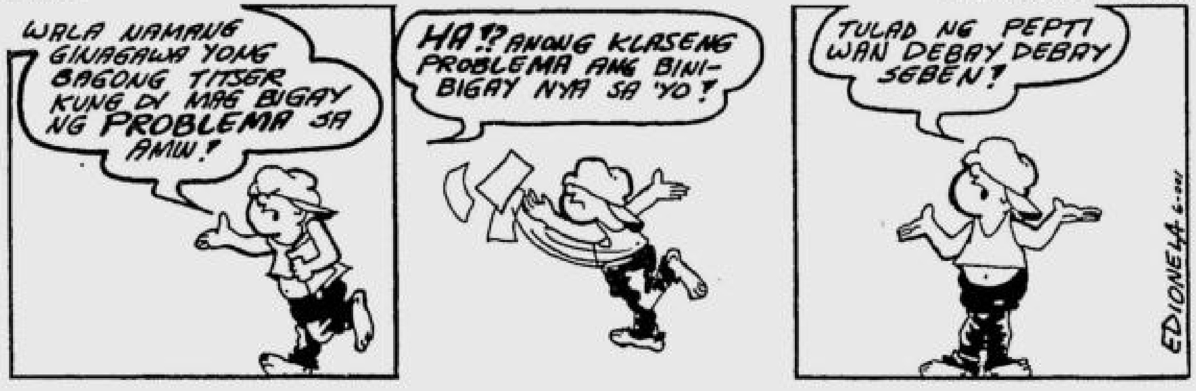
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


SINO 'TONG NABABALITAAN KONG NANLILIGAW SA 'YO? BRONTOSAURUS DAW ANG PANGALAN...
SI BRANDO. CHEF S'YA KAGAYA NI PAPA.
MAALALA MO LANG SANA NA LABINTATLONG TAON NA AKONG NANLILIGAW SA 'YO.
MALAKI-LAKI NA ANG NAIPUHUNAN KO SA 'YO, BAH!
OOOH, SYANGA 'NO?
PERO ALAM MO, SA DALAWANG BUWAN NA PANLILIGAW NI BRANDO SA AKIN E PAREHO NA KAYO NG NAGAGASTOS SA AKIN.
PMJR2001

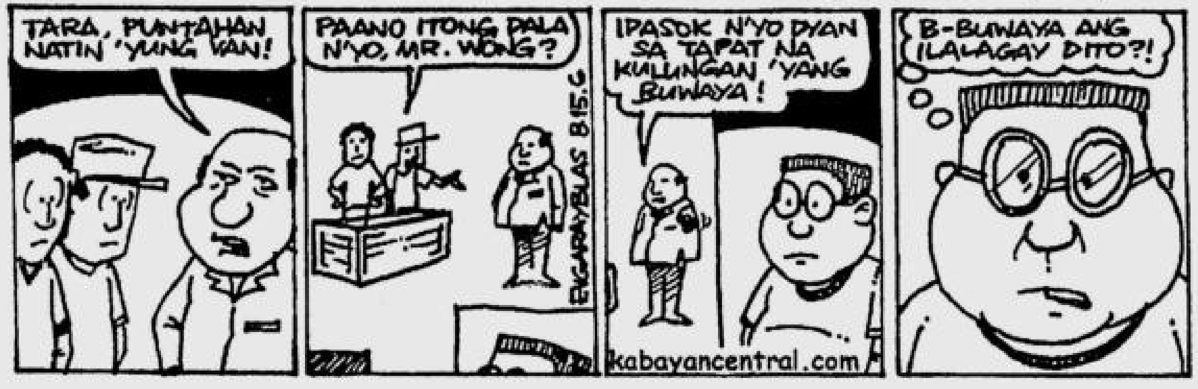
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


WALA NAMANG GINAGAWA YONG BAGONG TITSER KUNG DI MAG BIGAY NG PROBLEMA SA AMIN!
HA!? ANONG KLASENG PROBLEMA ANG BINIBIGAY NYA SA 'YO?
TULAD NG PEPTI WAN DEBAY DEBAY SEBEN?
EDIONELA

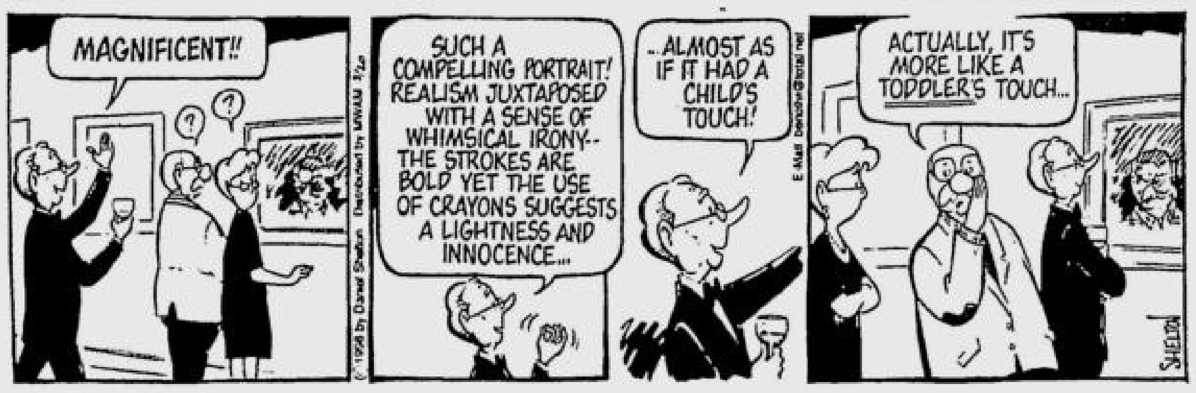
B1 GANG

BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


TARA, PUNTAHAN NATIN 'YUNG VAN!
PAANO ITONG PALA N'YO, MR. WONG?
IPASOK N'YO DYAN SA TAPAT NA KULUNGAN 'YANG BUWAYA!
B-BUWAYA ANG ILALAGAY DITO?!
kabayancentral.com

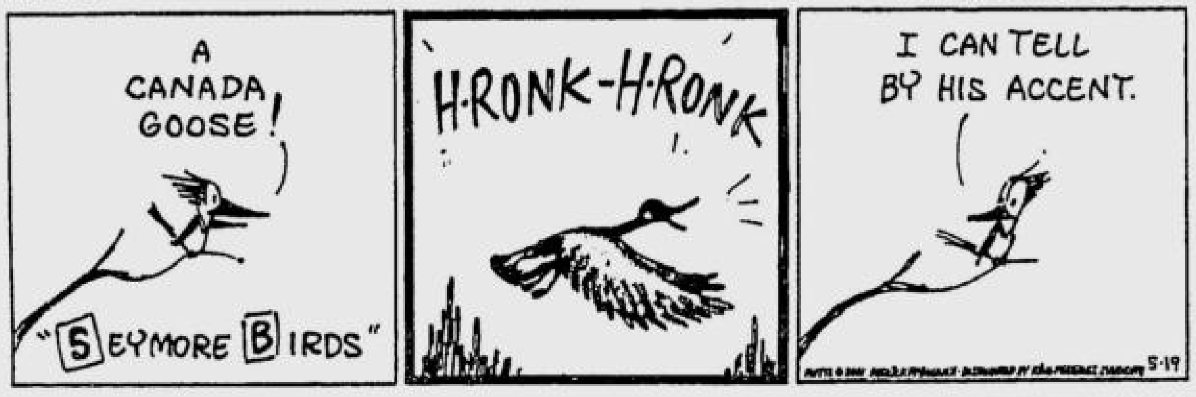
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


MAGNIFICENT!!
?
?
SUCH A COMPELLING PORTRAIT! REALISM JUXTAPOSED WITH A SENSE OF WHIMSICAL IRONY-- THE STROKES ARE BOLD YET THE USE OF CRAYONS SUGGESTS A LIGHTNESS AND INNOCENCE...
..ALMOST AS IF IT HAD A CHILD'S TOUCH!
ACTUALLY, IT'S MORE LIKE A TODDLER'S TOUCH...
SHELTON

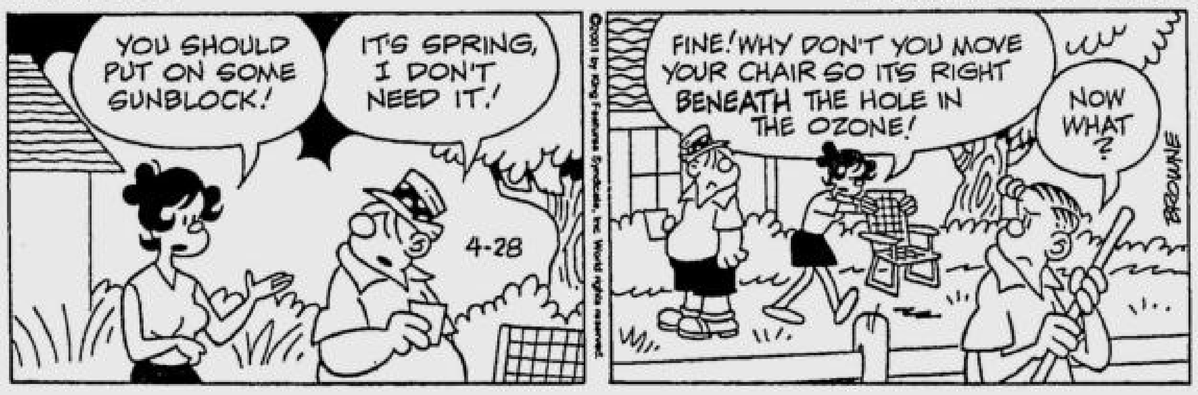
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


A CANADA GOOSE!
"SEYMORE BIRDS"
H·RONK-H·RONK
I CAN TELL BY HIS ACCENT.
5-19

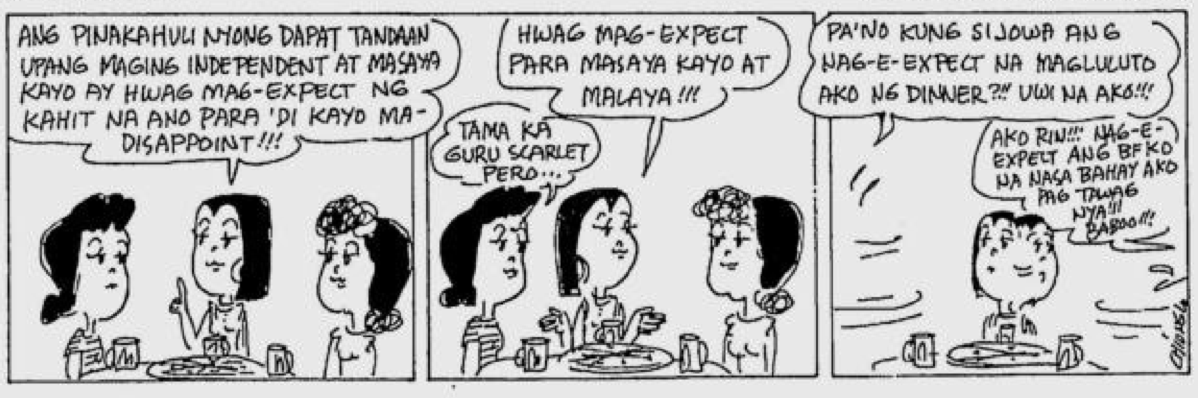
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


YOU SHOULD PUT ON SOME SUNBLOCK!
IT'S SPRING, I DON'T NEED IT!
4-28
FINE! WHY DON'T YOU MOVE YOUR CHAIR SO IT'S RIGHT BENEATH THE HOLE IN THE OZONE!
NOW WHAT?
BROWNE

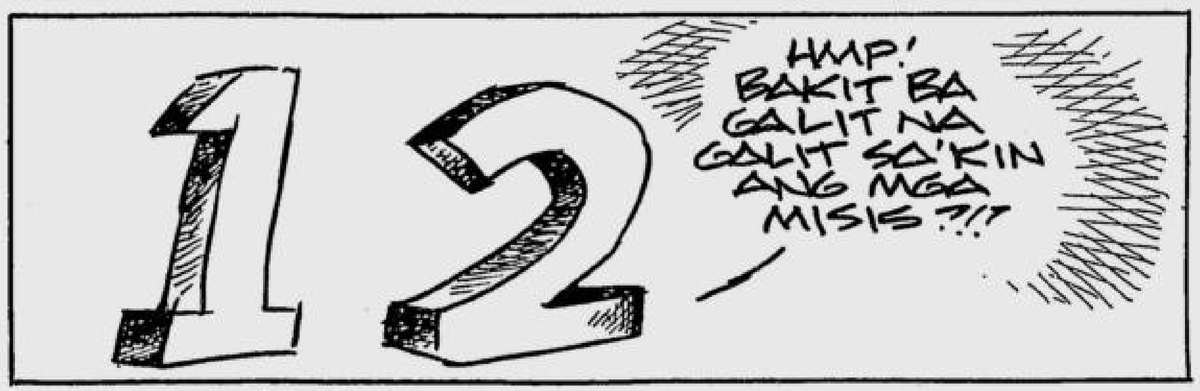
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ANG PINAKAHULI NYONG DAPAT TANDAAN UPANG MAGING INDEPENDENT AT MASAYA KAYO AY HWAG MAG-EXPECT NG KAHIT NA ANO PARA 'DI KAYO MA-DISAPPOINT!!!
TAMA KA GURU SCARLET PERO...
HWAG MAG-EXPECT PARA MASAYA KAYO AT MALAYA!!!
PA'NO KUNG SIJOWA ANG NAG-E-EXPECT NA MAGLULUTO AKO NG DINNER?!! UWI NA AKO!!!
AKO RIN!!! NAG-E-EXPECT ANG BF KO NA NASA BAHAY AKO PAG TAWAG NYA!!! BABOO!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


1 2
HMP! BAKIT BA GALIT NA GALIT SA'KIN ANG MGA MISIS?!?

Fans, friends pay tribute to Quinn

BY AMY FORLITI

QUINN. A creative soul who used his artistic talent to help others. AP

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island—As they stood under one of actor Anthony Quinn's own paintings, family members and friends remembered the two-time Oscar winner as a creative soul who used his artistic talent to help others.

Integrity

"He was, and is, a person of integrity and substance," said the Rev. Jim Miller, who presided over Saturday's public funeral service for Quinn. "You see it in his artistry as a painter and a sculptor."

About 300 people, including family members, attended the service at First Baptist Church in America. They watched as a video montage showed still shots from many of Quinn's 100 movies, and they listened as an organist played an improvisation of the theme song from "Zorba the Greek."

Actors Edward James Olmos and Franco Nero spoke at the service, as did former New York Mayor David Dinkins and Providence Mayor Vincent Cianci Jr.

"In you, Tony, I found a friend so good, so true, so strong," Cianci said. "In you, I found a friend forever."

Actor Adam Sandler also attended the service. And a floral arrangement and card reading: "My deepest condolences, Al Pacino," sat in back of the church.

Brother

Olmos, who gave part of his speech in Spanish, said he would remember the 86-year-old Quinn as a brother.

"His real gift was helping people who had no voice," Olmos said before the service. "His gift was creativity and giving, he created in everything he did.

"This man lived a tremendous, tremendous life."

Quinn died of respiratory failure. He was buried on his property in Bristol. About 40 family members and close friends attended the private ceremony.

Quinn's wife, Katherine Benvin Quinn, 38, and four of his children shared memories at Saturday's service—all said they felt proud that Quinn touched their lives with his creativity and energy.

"My father was not the average man, my father was Anthony Quinn," said Francesco Quinn.

Quinn's family also thanked his fans for paying tribute to the legendary actor, while fans said the family was gracious for holding a public farewell.

"I never thought I'd be able to go inside and shake his wife's hand," said Tom Bennett of Providence. "He's such a piece of Hollywood history."

100 films

Anthony Quinn was born in Mexico and raised in East Los Angeles. He starred in 100 feature films, including a role as the fierce Bedouin leader in "Lawrence of Arabia" in 1962 and the earthy hero of the 1964 film "Zorba the Greek."

He won his first Oscar for his work in the 1952 film "Viva Zapata!" as the brother of Mexican revolutionary leader Emiliano Zapata. He picked up his second award for supporting actor for the 1956 drama "Lust for Life."

He moved to Italy as his film career began to slow down, and eventually settled in Rhode Island. He lived in Bristol for the last six years of his life. *AP*

If you ...

(From page E5)

the long-running programs like 'Maalaala Mo Kaya.' I also watch their soap operas, which I think are improving. The characters are meatier, more believable than the ones before.

"The news team of GMA is better, I think, but ABS's is not so bad either. If you want to find out who the future stars will be, you watch this channel. They're very good at marketing their stars. They're also an award-winning station, which means that they produce quality work *kahit papaano.*"—*Michael Fajardo, 17, Manila*

Fed up

"Studio 23. I know it's '*makabanyaga*' but I'm fed up with other channels. They're not "in" anymore and they're '*baduy.*' I'm sick and tired of their slapstick comedy routines that aren't funny anyway. I see more sense in watching 'MYX' than 'Home Along the Riles' and all those other tedious shows like their soap operas.

"On Mondays I watch 'Charmed,' 'Angel' on Tuesdays, 'Gameplan' on Wednesdays, and 'The Nanny' on Sundays. I don't feel cheated or *bitin* after I watch their shows. I can feel that the makers really put a lot of effort into them.

"I prefer watching Studio 23's 'News Central' when it comes to news. It airs around 10 p.m., a more convenient time than the other late news shows of other channels, which start around 11 p.m. already. Also, they report the news in English. It sounds better than the Tagalog news programs whose use of Tagalog sounds *pilit.*"—*Laurice Ramos, 18, Valenzuela City*

"Definitely, Studio 23. I don't want to sound like I have colonial mentality but I'd rather watch 'Dawson's Creek,' even if it's little corny, than those soap operas and comedy shows that are even more corny!

"Studio 23 has all kinds of programs so you don't get stuck. Most of their shows are American but that's fine with me because they are better-made than local shows. And if I'm going to be stuck with one local channel, then I'd rather be stuck with one that doesn't insult my intelligence."—*RJ Veracruz, 19, Iligan City*

What about you, dear reader? Which channel couldn't you possibly do without?

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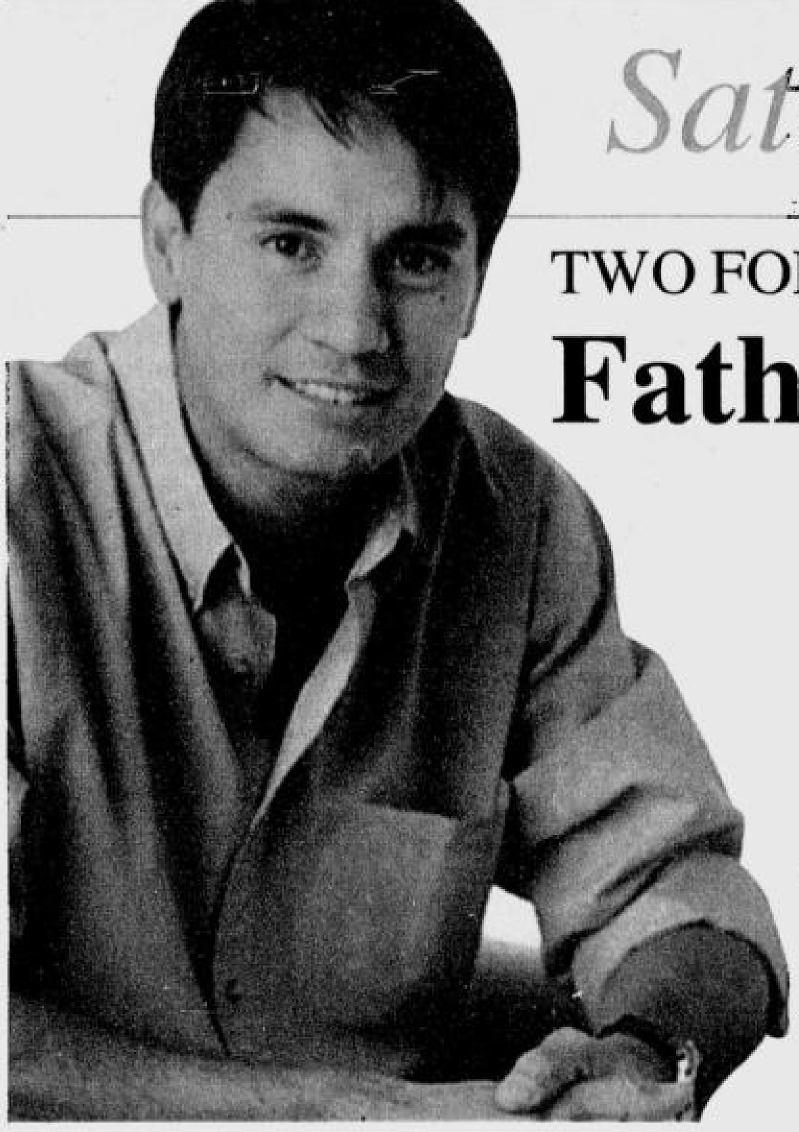
Saturday SPECIAL



TWO FOR THE SHOW

Fatherhood suits Richard Gomez

He admits that shifting from a sitcom to a legal drama series will test his mettle as an actor

GOMEZ. "I love waking up beside Lucy."

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA
AND RICKY T. GALLARDO

RICHARD Gomez has mellowed. Fatherhood suits him. He feels that his most important roles in life now are being a husband to Lucy and a dad to their daughter, Julianna. Providing for their needs is his top priority. He's excited to come home every evening because he wants to be with his little, "nuclear" family.

"I'm gentler and more understanding now that I'm a dad. I appreciate Lucy more everyday because she gave me Julianna," Richard grins.

He admits that he has become sweeter, more loving and giving because Lucy continues to shower him with love, care and affection, even if she has to attend to the needs of Julianna.

"Lucy is very generous with her affection. She makes me happy because of the way she takes care of us," he says.

His first sitcom, "Palibhasa Lalake" stayed on the air for almost a decade, before he starred with his wife in "Richard Loves Lucy" after they got married. The sitcom folded up early this year when he started campaigning for the May 14 elections.

His new weekly show "Your Honor" is a legal drama inspired by the US series, "The Practice."

As a principled legal counsel, Atty. Ryan Geronimo, Richard is given a lot of dramatic highlights. He admits that shifting from a sitcom to a legal drama series will test his mettle as an actor.

"The law is very interesting. I consulted my lawyer friends on how they act, move and speak inside the courtroom. I've been in a courtroom before and during our first taping day, I tried to remember how the defense lawyer cross-examined me. This show hopes to show the different problems of a wide range of people," he reveals.

In his new show, Richard is being paired with Glydel Mercado. How does he feel about not having Lucy with him when he tapes?

"It's a courtroom drama and Lucy is not really ready for that kind of stuff. She was convinced to do "Richard Loves Lucy" only because she would play her real-life role as my wife. That was easy for her.

"But to make her play another character is not her cup of tea. She always says that she's not an actress. She's happy taking care of Julianna and me," Richard beams.

What's the best thing about being married?

"I love waking up beside Lucy. The little things that Lucy does make me feel really special," Richard shares.

Regine Velasquez shines

Regine Velasquez truly deserves her title, "Asia's Songbird." As the featured artist in a recent Crossover event at the Mandarin Oriental hotel, she attracted an SRO crowd and satisfied them to the hilt.

She performed with ease and sophistication as she sang "Never Give Up," "Love Is Stronger Far Than We," and "Emotion." Then she touched the crowd when she said that she always holds her birthday concerts at the Mandarin but she still gets nervous when she faces a huge crowd.

She sang Brian McKnight's signature song, "Back At One, Stevie Wonder's "Overjoyed" and Celine Dion's "That's The Way It Is" and got a lot of requests after that. She gamely sang the chorus of each request and was rewarded with hoots, cheers and applause.

Regine's spontaneity and rapport with her audience make her a popular concert performer because she enjoys what she does and truly sings with passion.

Underdogs top the MTV Awards

'Twas the time for underdogs to shine last weekend when MTV Philippines handed out its 2001 Music Video awards at the Edsa Shangri-la Grand Ballroom. We were very happy for newcomer Kyla, who bested veteran artists for the most coveted Best Video Award for her song, "Hanggang Ngayon."

Kyla scored a coup of sorts by beating Parokya ni Edgar, Jessa Zaragosa, Teeth, the Christian rock group Battery and Gary Valenciano for the top plum.

The same video, directed by Lyle Sacris, also won for Kyla the Best New Artist Award.

Sacris, whose flaming red tomahawk hairstyle caused a lot of heads to turn, also romped away with the Best Director trophy for his wonderful work in

FATHERHOOD/p.F2

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Simon West directs Angelina Jolie in 'Tomb Raider'

By Michael Fleming

WEST discusses a scene with Angelina Jolie.

AFTER directing the blockbusters "Con Air" and "General's Daughter," Simon West had the kind of commercial clout that gives you a lot of leeway in choosing your next project.

He turned down "Erin Brockovich" because two other projects had gotten hold of his imagination. One was "Black Hawk Down," the true story of the US raid on Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993, a project West had developed with producer Jerry Bruckheimer.

Surreal

The other was even closer to his heart. He'd grown up enamored of the surreal British TV series "The Prisoner," in which Patrick McGoohan played an ex-spy kept captive in a village by forces trying to deprogram him. He decided instead to turn the video game "Tomb Raider" into a movie.

Why would West want to be involved with "Tomb Raider" and its big-breasted lethal heroine, Lara Croft, when Hollywood had such an atrocious track record with similar transformations? He had his reasons, and now he's talking like he's got one of the biggest hits of the summer on his hands, with a sequel already in the works. Q & A:

Was "Tomb Raider" a coveted assignment for a director?

I'm not sure. I know there were people desperate to do it who were passionate about the game, but you need someone who's more passionate about filmmaking than the game playing. Maybe that's been the mistake in the past.

Appalling

I was never obsessed with Lara Croft. I wasn't even a video-game player. Making a film out of a video game seemed appalling to me. I had turned 'Tomb Raider' down a couple of times, but then I decided it could turn into something special and different.

What about it brought you around to that conclusion?

I'd just come off 'The General's Daughter,' a dark drama where the passions of the characters were what I concentrated on. With 'Tomb Raider' there was drama, character and passion, but I could also run wild with surreal images, humor and action. That got me excited.

There was a lot of speculation about who might play Lara Croft. Why did you choose Angelina Jolie?

I wanted someone with a dark edge, something Angelina Jolie has on every level. She's turned in tour de force performances in very dark stories, and in her personal life people see her as this dangerous, wild person. I wanted that to rub off on the character.

Lara Croft is an adrenaline junkie living on the edge of moral correctness. I knew Angelina was going to give that to me. She's also gorgeous and voluptuous, which is a main characteristic of Lara Croft.

Pyrotechnics

If Angelina had said no, I don't think I would have done the film. You can throw all the pyrotechnics and CGI at the screen, but if you don't cast right, don't even bother getting out of bed.

Did Angelina warm up to the character of Lara Croft right away?

Normally at the end of a film, you never want to see a character again, but both Angelina and I were already talking about scheduling the next one. She said Lara Croft was the role closest to herself. Lara sleeps with knives, she can handle any weapon, doesn't take shit from anybody. That's Angelina Jolie.

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El Carlos, maker of curtains and more

By Behn Cervantes

CARLOS Larcena stands out in New York. Whenever he attends Manhattan socials, he turns heads. His over-all look prods most people to breathily ask, "Who is he?" Indeed, I did exactly that when I first laid my eyes on him. I looked at him from head to foot and quoted a line from "Boys in the Band:" Who is he? What does he hope to be?"

Carlos has a look all his own. He is a cross between a primitive ebony statue and a fashionable hippie from Harlem

Flamboyant

Carlos has a look all his own. He is cross between a primitive ebony statue and a fashionable hippie from Harlem. Or, he could pass for a flamboyant someone who may recently have migrated from the Caribbean.

He also has a sound all his own—his volume is pegged on "Loud"! Actually, when you hear him speak you can bet that he must hail from some island in the Visayas, because when he talks (which is often) he is *Bisaya gid*. Actually, Carlos hails from Davao. There, he learned to fend for himself early in life.

Life was not easy. He would have to work hard to get anywhere in this world, he learned. He decided he was going to pursue what made him happy. Sewing was it! There was not much to do in Davao so he set his eyes on Manila. After earning some money, he bought a ticket and took a slow boat to the big city, where he quickly enrolled in a "fashion" school in Azcarraga.

As a *promdi* in the Big City, life was difficult for him, but he expected that and survived. He learned fast and soon enough, he found himself putting his best foot forward in Ramon Valera's atelier. Under the guidance of Valera, he honed his craft and cultivated good (sewing) habits.

Meticulous

When the fashion czar passed away, Salvacion Lim hired Carlos. At Slims, he further honed his skill. He felt happy that both of his mentors were meticulous about fine sewing. He learned from the best, he says.

After a number of years in Manila, Carlos decided to accept a job in the Middle East, where his skill also impressed his Saudi Arabian boss. He earned good money although life there was often lonely. He focused on his plans. He would move on. In the meantime, he worked hard. Besides, he saved enough for him to send money back to his relatives in Davao. He even decided to adopt a niece and took care of her education in college.

After five years in the Middle East, he set his eyes on the Big Apple and the fashion district. He took to heart the lyrics of the song that stated that if he could make it there, he could make it anywhere. He flew to New York as a tourist with every intention of staying there and finding his place in the sun.

After a day of rest, he inquired where the Fashion District was on Sixth Avenue and started to pound the pavement all by himself. He asked around and inquired if a sewer was needed. He had his curriculum vitae on hand too. He knocked on dozens of doors but instead got the 'Sorry, no opening" standard reply with regularity. Finally, he chanced upon an opening. When asked about his experience, Carlos told the man interviewing him that it was best he sew and cut a few desired pieces. He was told to do so. As a result of his fine work, Carlos was hired on the spot.

In the beginning he went about his work as quietly as possible. He didn't want to rock the boat. After all, there were sewers who had been there for years. Who was he? An upstart, the more senior ones whispered. However, before too long, he was made the supervisor, making good money *and* enemies along the way. There were those who were threatened by this Johnny-come-lately who had so impressed the boss.

Great impression

He had made such a great impression that his boss sponsored his residence in the United States of America. Thus, Carlos got his green card and could now plan his life in New York. He sang, "New York, New York's a wonderful town!"

He couldn't stomach the rivalry and back-stabbing that became standard conduct among his peers. He wanted out. Fortunately, he also met Steven, who became his significant other. Steven also happened to own a loft large enough for Carlos to set up shop, and so he did.

ANOTHER example of Carlos' creativity.

LARCENA. He turns heads at Manhattan socials.

LARCENA'S curtains are all over New York, making living rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms more beautiful with his artistry.

He accepted orders from some Filipino customers but soon favorable word of mouth drew the attention of Park ave. and Fifth ave. matrons, who were enamored with his curtains, bedspreads, tablecloth and other creative pieces.

Carlos worked by himself. He did the cutting, the designs and the sewing. He only hired men to install his curtains when the time came. At the eighth floor loft with a clear view of the World Trade Center, he sewed curtains meant for his ritzy clientele that now included the wife of Albert Broccolli, the producer of the James Bond film series. The impressed matrons quickly recommended Carlos to their friends. Thus, his network of customers increased through the years.

His fine, clean work was universally admired, so Carlos worked double-time, often burning the midnight candle to meet deadlines.

It was hard work, Carlos admits but he declares, "*Sanay na ako sa kahirapan*" (I have long gotten used to hardship.)" Besides, he is obviously a survivor.

When I last saw him in New York, he was getting over his break-up with Steven after 16 years. A gay couple, Joel and Milton, took him in and lent him their extra room.

He has since gotten a job in a well-known chain and is buying his own condo. He will start all over again. If Carlos survived Davao, Manila, the Middle East and New York 16 years ago, there is no reason why he cannot beat the odds once more and turn this low point in his (emotional) life into the start of something new, better and gay! In the meantime, his curtains are all over New York, making living rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms more beautiful with his blithe creativity.

'Bread and Roses' is a triumph for Pilar Padilla

By David Germain

LOS ANGELES—British director Ken Loach's latest, "Bread and Roses," takes its title from the union slogan, "We want bread, but roses too."

Dichotomy

Food and flowers, sustenance and ornamentation. It's a dichotomy that could apply to Loach's films themselves, to the docudrama style that mixes tough issues with fine storytelling.

(His previous works include "Hidden Agenda," which won the special jury prize at the 1990 Cannes Film Festival; "Riff-Raff"; "Raining Stones," winner of the Cannes special jury prize for 1993; and "Land and Freedom.")

If you want social commentary but absorbing entertainment, gritty realism but fictionalized whimsy, something for the head but something for the heart, too, "Bread and Roses" delivers.

Loach's labor drama is drawn from the Justice for Janitors movement, which began in Los Angeles in the 1980s as underpaid office cleaners protested for decent wages, security and health benefits.

"Bread and Roses" traces the journey of a spirited Mexican woman, Maya (Pilar Padilla), from her dash across the border to join her sister Rosa (Elpidia Carrillo) in Los Angeles, to her initial joy at landing a cleaning job with Rosa, to her gradual enlistment in a union drive over the cleaners' deplorable treatment.

Slave wages

They earn slave wages with no benefits, work under threat of replacement and must kowtow to a heartless boss, Perez (George Lopez). Maya must pay Perez a "commission," two months' wages, before she's hired, and she later learns of a much greater sacrifice Rosa made so Perez would give Maya the job.

Adrien Brody co-stars as Sam, a mischievous union organizer who takes Abbie Hoffmanlike glee at yanking the establishment's chain. Much like Ron Leibman's character was mentor to Sally Field's in "Norma Rae," so Sam guides Maya to a fighting realization of her rights as she becomes a leader in efforts to unionize her building's cleaners.

Juxtaposition

The movie wryly captures the juxtaposition of lawyers in $1,000 suits coexisting in office buildings with cleaners making $5.75 an hour. One evening, late-working suits sweep into an elevator, oblivious to Maya and a co-worker in their janitor uniforms, crouching to scrape gunk from the door's crevices.

"You know my theory about uniforms? They make us look invisible," Maya's colleague says.

Padilla, making her film debut after doing theater in Mexico, infuses her character with a joyousness and fierce determination that makes Maya a delight to watch.

The performance, largely done in English, is more remarkable considering Padilla didn't speak the language when Loach cast her. She spent two months learning English before shooting began.

While "Bread and Roses" largely belongs to Padilla, Carrillo is brilliant, particularly in an agonizing monologue when Rosa reveals the horrors she endured to send money for Maya and her family back home.

Contrivance

Paul Laverty's screenplay offers a nice blend of drama and humor. The story eventually falls into an unfortunate contrivance, however, when Maya goes to unlawful extremes to get cash for a needy co-worker.

The act sets up her ultimate fate, but it's far out of character for Maya. Surely, there was some action more in keeping with her character that could have served the same end.

Final word: Watch for quick cameos by a few name actors when union demonstrators crash a party at a Hollywood law firm.

"Bread and Roses," released by Lions Gate Films, runs 110 minutes. *AP*

Fatherhood suits Richard Gomez

(From page F1)

the video "Sink or Swim" from Chico Science. He bested top favorites Louie Ignacio and Robert Quebral for the award.

Kyla was surprised when her name was announced and all she could utter was "Thank you so much and I love you all!" It can be recalled that when "Hanggang Ngayon" was released, it got very mixed reviews and bashers labelled it as "not radio-friendly at all" until more knowledgeable critics and fans gave Kyla their support by making the song a certified hit.

We remember Kyla (Melanie Calumpad is her real name) as the runner-up in the very first Metropop Star Search yeas ago where she was unfairly beaten by Champagne Morales.

The moment we heard her sing, we knew Kyla would go places. And thanks to the MTV Awards, she has notched her sweetest vindication.

Other winners included Ogie Alcasid (Best Male Artist for "Kahit Na"), first-time winner Regine Velasquez (Best Female Artist for "Lost Without Your Love") and Parokya ni Edgar (Best Group).

VELASQUEZ. Performed with ease and sophistication.

'Mila' may turn out to be one of Maricel's best

She first stole our hearts as Shayne in "Saan Darating Ang Umaga." Her famous line was "*Wala sa damit, wala sa kulay ang pagmamahal. Nasa puso. Nasa utak!*"

"We still haven't forgotten how schemingly brilliant she was as Clarissa Gardamonte in her dramatic launching film "Kaya Kong Abutin ang Langit" where she uttered the now classic line, "*Ayoko ng masikip, ayoko ng mabaho, ayoko ng amoy putik!*"

Now comes yet another socially relevant drama film touted by some as one of Maricel Soriano's most exceptional performances, something subtle and felt, unlike most of her loud movies.

"Mila" is the story of a teacher whose lessons were meant for a bigger classroom called life, and Soriano gives a fitting portrayal of the protagonist.

KYLA beat veteran artists for MTV's Best Video Award.

AUTHOR Ken Kesey holds an original playbill from the 1963 production starring Kirk Douglas of the play based on Kessey's novel, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." AP

'Cuckoo's Nest' on stage launched Kesey's writing career

By Jeff Barnard

PLEASANT HILL, Oregon—Author Ken Kesey has never seen the movie version of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," his classic 1960s tale of how mainstream society cannot abide a free thinker.

Never has and never will.

But the play? That's different.

Rights

Almost 40 years after actor Kirk Douglas bought the rights and hired "Man of La Mancha" playwright Dale Wasserman to do the stage adaptation, "Cuckoo's Nest" is back on Broadway, where the original 1963 run was not exactly a smash, but accomplished what Kesey considers the launching of his success as a novelist.

"Without the play, the novel would have made a little bubble," says Kesey, sitting among the clutter of wires and video editing terminals in his office, where he is turning movies of his famed 1964 bus trip across America into videos.

The current Broadway revival stars Gary Sinise in a production from Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Co.

The story became a touchstone of the '60s, with the 1975 movie winning an Academy Award for best picture and the play being published in 27 languages—including Urdu and Hebrew—and showing up on a stage somewhere 100 times a year, according to Wasserman.

Theme

"It was a product of a time, a particular time in the United States," Wasserman says from his home outside Phoenix. "It's a theme I love, which actually runs through my other plays as well—the rebellion of the individual against society, and what society does in order to suppress or even destroy that individual."

Kesey wrote "Cuckoo's Nest" in the fall of 1958, while a member of Wallace Stegner's famous writing seminar at Stanford University.

It was an exceptional class that included Larry McMurtry, Robert Stone, Wendell Berry and Ernest J. Gaines.

When Kesey wasn't guinea-pigging for LSD tests, he was working midnight to 8 a.m. on the psychiatric ward at a veteran's hospital.

"Nine months I worked there," he says. "I wrote the whole thing right there on the ward. When I was writing it, I was just writing it. I never thought it would be anything big time."

Kesey created a prototypical American hero, Randle P. McMurphy, then turned him loose with the nuts.

Hatred

McMurphy had faked insanity to get off a prison farm crew, but quickly finds that the psych ward is no Easy Street. He gradually wins over the other patients, but earns the hatred of the authoritarian Nurse Ratched. When electroshock doesn't tame McMurphy, she has him lobotomized to regain control of the unit.

Kesey says that creating McMurphy was easy. People already knew who he was, a big brash hustler who strides into town wearing big boots, talking loud and taking care of business.

The breakthrough, what made the novel different from anything Hemingway or Faulkner had done before, was telling the story through the eyes of a schizophrenic, Chief Bromden.

"I dealt with people all night long, people crazy as hell," Kesey recalls. "I'd sit in the nurse's room behind this nice big typewriter. One time this guy came in. I have a Coke on the desk. He says, 'I see you're drinking from a glass bottle. You could do a lot of damage with this.' And I'm just nodding my head and writing it down, 'You could do a lot of damage with this.'"

For realism, Kesey underwent electroshock himself—in his back yard, using wires plugged into a wall socket. "I was sure convinced never to do it again. LSD could be hard, but nothing like this."

Seminar

Kesey says that editor Malcolm Cowley was working with Stegner's seminar, and asked to take the manuscript of "Cuckoo's Nest" with him when he returned to New York City. Viking published it, as well as everything else Kesey has written over the years.

Wasserman says that he worked hard to remain true to Kesey's story, and felt his play succeeded, unlike the movie. The original play went wrong, he says, when Douglas brought in some Hollywood writers to make McMurphy more consistently heroic.

"Disagreeing on it, I cut out before it opened," Wasserman says. "I spent my time as personal therapy and began writing a new work called 'Man of La Mancha.'"

"I understand why Kesey would not care for the movie. The movie is a good nut house story, primarily featuring Jack Nicholson doing Jack Nicholson. But he is not really the character. The movie omits what for me is the most fascinating part of the novel and the play, which looks into the mind of a schizophrenic.

"By looking into his mind, we get a very fine view of what Kesey called 'the Combine,' which is a world that cannot abide the individualist or the rule breaker."

Reviews

The night "Cuckoo's Nest" opened in 1963, Kesey joined the producers, cast and crew afterward at a restaurant to wait for the newspaper reviews. When they came in, the score was three thumbs up, and three thumbs down.

"They all said it was not going to make it," Kesey says. "But Kirk Douglas was gutsy enough to say, 'It is going to make it.'"

The play carried on for two months before closing. It was an off-Broadway success eight years later, with William Devane in the title role, and continues to be produced around the world. **AP**

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STEPEHEN Walters (left) and Rick Warden fire at the enemy in "Band of Brothers."

ORGANIZERS welcome Tom Hanks to the D-Day ceremonies. NORMANDY PHOTOS BY ED SICAM

HBO invades Normandy for miniseries premiere

What makes this show a truly big event is that two Hollywood legends, Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks, signed on as executive producers

By Edmund L. Sicam

D-DAY, the sixth of June, 2001, at the invitation of HBO, we were on the beaches of Normandy, France to join an invasion party much like the Allied forces that landed in 1944 to liberate France and the rest of Europe. The Allied offensive marked the start of the fall of the Third Reich and every year, war veterans have gotten together at the Utah Beach Memorial in Normandy to commemorate the historic event.

10 weeks

This year was different because HBO has just finished "Band of Brothers," a miniseries that will run for 10 weeks in the US starting Sept. 9 at 9 p.m. (Eastern Time) and decided to hold its premiere in Normandy in time with the annual D-Day commemoration

"Band of Brothers" is based on the true-to-life story of Easy Company, paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division of the US Army, who parachuted into France early on D-Day morning, held the line in the Battle of the Bulge, and captured Hitler's Eagle's Nest at Berchtesgaden. Their story is dramatized in the book "Band of Brothers," written by Stephen Ambrose.

What makes this show a truly big event is that two Hollywood legends, signed on as executive producers—Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks. Hanks also directs one of the episodes. In typical Spielberg fashion, the miniseries cost $120 million to produce, a hefty budget even for a feature film, and HBO's most expensive project to date.

Despite the big bucks, there are no big-name stars in the movie. The only names we recognized in the credits were David Schwimmer of "Friends" fame and Colin Hanks, son of Tom. From the publicity materials, there were actors whom we've seen in supporting roles but none of whom have made a big impact in Hollywood.

Much of the $120 million has gone to recreating the beaches of Normandy and other key locations at the Hatfield Aerodome, a former British Aerospace facility located in Hatfield, Hetfordshire, England. The village scenes of "Saving Private Ryan" were shot there. A portion of the miniseries, which was supposed to take place in Austria, was filmed in Switzerland.

Football fields

Production started April 3, 2000 and wrapped up on Nov. 24, 2001. The village, which became 11 different European cities and villages filled 12 acres, the size of nine American football fields. There were 500 speaking roles and more than 10,000 extras.

The wardrobe department hired a boot company to manufacture 500 pairs of paratrooper jump boots and purchased or manufactured some 2,000 uniforms. One-third of a million pounds of recycled paper were used to create snow for the forest set, a job that took four weeks to finish.

The forest set was built in an airplane hangar using real trees as well as 250 trees created by the special effects department.

In keeping with the magnitude of the production, HBO decided to hold a movie premiere to outdo other premieres. Usually, premieres are held in regular theaters and international journalists are invited to attend a press event, where the stars and the director are interviewed in a five-star hotel.

The premiere for "Band of Brothers," on the other hand, was held at the locale where it actually happened, on the beaches of Normandy, France. To accomplish this feat, 30 crew members spent one month to build 70,000 square feet of temporary structures and used 40 tons of equipment.

When they were finished, HBO had a screening tent that could accommodate 1,000 people and a screen that measured 20 x 40 feet. Another tent was used as the reception area with seating for 1,000 people, as well as lounge and bar space. There were even luxury portable toilets comparable to the finest toilets found in five-star hotels.

Press room

Other tents were set up for the press room and a snack area. Satellite facilities were put up on the site so broadcasters could cover the official Utah Beach ceremony live or send their reports back on a delayed basis.

Aside from the press, HBO invited the 30 remaining Easy Company veterans and their families to fly in a chartered American Airlines 777 jet from New York to Paris. Attending the premiere was Tom Hanks, HBO chairman and CEO Jeff Bewkes, "Band of Brothers" author Stephen Ambrose, the cast and production staff of the miniseries and other VIPs. In the best tradition of Hollywood hype, it was also announced that formal invitations were sent to the heads of state of the United States, Great Britain, France and Canada.

HBO/ p.G2

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I went to their weddings, 2

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

THE ROMNICK Sarmenta-Harlene Bautista nuptials last December were the simplest show biz wedding rites I've ever witnessed. But this is not to say it lacked in things that make people cry at weddings. Because what it purposely didn't have much of in terms of fancy trimmings, it more than made up for in the romance department.

Testimony

The love story of Romnick and Harlene is a powerful testimony of love winning out in the end. I recall, they were each other's first love. They had just stepped into the brave, new world of teenage life when they fell for each other.

But the fans, who reserved their catatonic adulation for the Romnick-Sheryl (Cruz) tandem, didn't approve of their love team. The Nicko-She movies hit it big at the box office and, at that time, that was all that mattered. So, Romnick and Harlene's love had to be sacrificed at the altar of show biz exigency.

Romnick romanced Sheryl on and off screen. When the relationship wore off, along with the interest of the fickle fans, he fell in love with Beth Tamayo. Then, with Michelle Ortega. And I'm sure, with several others still! Meanwhile, Harlene moved on with her life.

Who would think that, more than a decade later, their paths' would cross again, and their love for each other would still be alive and well? Their year-end wedding was the fitting culmination of their dramatic love story.

As I said, it was a very simple wedding. Inside the University of the Philippines chapel, not more than 30 people witnessed the exchange of vows. At the reception catered by Rading Carlos, there must have been just a little more than a hundred guests.

Utter simplicity

But the utter simplicity only highlighted the love that the newlyweds shared. I remember, I felt a tingle when Romnick wiped a bead of sweat on his bride's brow and, as Harlene gazed into his eyes, they exchanged knowing smiles and pressed each other's hands. It was a beautiful sight.

The wedding of Romnick and Harlene gave me a good, heart-warming feeling that their marriage is going to be stable and will last a lifetime.

That was the same feeling I got when I went to the wedding of Ronnie Ricketts and Mariz.

It was a grand wedding but there was an innate simplicity to it which enhanced the quiet dignity of the ceremonies. And Ronnie and Mariz were so *bagay!*

Ronnie exuded strength but you knew from the way he gently kissed his bride that he was going to be a very loving husband. As for Mariz, she looked coy and fragile but you caught a glimpse of the steel in her from the calm but resolute steps she took as she marched down the aisle.

Rehearsals

I was one of the principal sponsors and it was the only wedding I went to which required everyone in the entourage to attend rehearsals days before the actual date. But it was well worth it. With the groom's mom Edith Naldo-Ricketts at the helm of the preparations, it was the most organized wedding I've ever attended.

I'm particularly fond of weddings. There's something special in being a part of two people's most important day—you get to witness two lives becoming one.

But there were weddings I wasn't able to go to, either because I wasn't invited or my schedule just got impossible. Or the circumstances surrounding the wedding were just too strange. Like the "fantasy" wedding of Christopher de Leon and Nora Aunor, for instance. I missed that.

On the eve of the wedding, I was with Guy the entire day but she hadn't breathed a single word about it to me. It wasn't that she kept her marital plans from me, there simply weren't any yet at the time. Guy really didn't know she was going to get married *pala* the next day! Weird, you say? Guy has done such "wonder" stuff.

According to my informants, the wedding started with a dare. Boyet was the special guest in an episode of Guy's "Ang Makulay na Daigdig ni Nora" taped in one of the beautiful beaches in Bauang, La Union.

Dare

I forget who initiated the dare, but, to the surprise of everyone on the set, a priest had already been summoned and Guy and Boyet, in their jeans and tees, were already trading "I do's" knee-deep in the water!

LANI AND BONG. "Centennial" wedding.

MARIZ AND RONNIE. Innate simplicity.

Another wedding I missed was that of Rudy Fernandez and Lorna Tolentino. I forget where I had to go but I had conflicting schedules. The two had been secretly married in Jaen, Nueva Ecija in civil rites. Ten years later, they were married in one of the most spectacular weddings held in this country.

The event was staged in Villa Escudero. Both the bride and the groom went to the church in horse-drawn chariots. LT must have felt every inch the Lady Di that she had been compared to as she held the arm of her very own Prince Charming.

Come to think of it, I should have made it a point to attend that wedding—if only for the privilege of seeing the bride being escorted to the altar by her father, Amado Aluquin.

Backgrounder: Years earlier, taking on LT's challenge that she'd give a cool million to whoever could present to her her so-called real father, I quietly did a little amateur sleuthing and, when she guested on "See True" to promote one of her potboilers, I called in Amado Aluquin and introduced him to LT, who was shocked and fled the TV studio.

Blessings

There was another spectacular wedding I failed to attend although I was invited—that of Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr. and Lani Mercado. They were originally married in the US but, believing that their marriage would be more stable if it had the blessings of the Catholic church, they renewed their marital vows in what was dubbed as the "centennial" wedding.

Bong was dashing in his Aguinaldo-inspired military uniform and Lani was simply divine in her elaborate Maria Clara ensemble. It was one of those rare occasions when show business and politics mixed with the *masa*, with the wedding banquet served in three different locations.

There's another reason why I like weddings: They underscore the importance that we Filipinos ascribe to the family as an institution. In this day of trial marriages, live-in arrangements, divorces and annulments, the fact that people still choose to get married means our heads are still on top of our shoulders, and our hearts still throb in the right place.

HBO . . .

(From page G1)

Of course, none of them showed up.

Guests took chartered buses from Paris to Normandy, a four-hour drive that passed through agricultural lands. When we got to Caen, several kilometers from Normandy, it was raining hard but we saw D-Day activities taking place. The rain had subsided by the time we got to our destination.

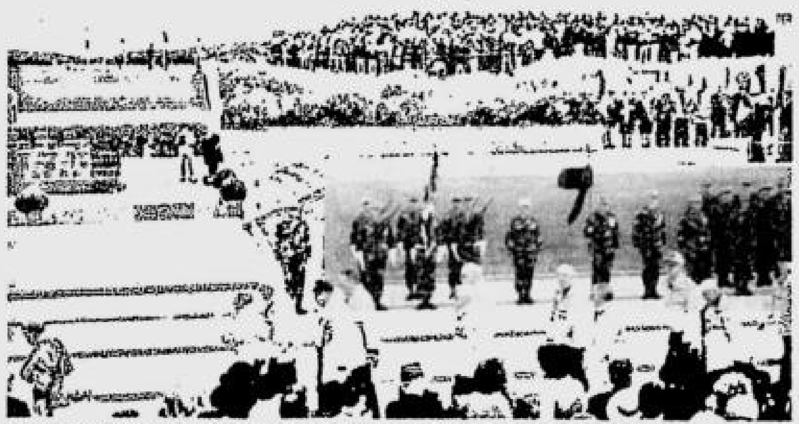
We don't know how many members of the cast marched through the reception line because we could not associate the names with their faces, but we did spot Tom Hanks, who didn't bother to talk to members of the press on his way to the screening room. He was, however, scheduled to give a short press conference later that afternoon.

David Schwimmer, looking a lot different from his bumbling character in "Friends," was more friendly with the press, stopping to give interviews to TV outfits and even signing autographs for fans.

SCHWIMMER. A serious role.

Colin Hanks

We didn't know what Colin Hanks looked like so we didn't know if he passed the reception line. We did get to interview him after the premiere, and he autographed our press kit, confirming that he was, indeed, the son of Tom.



VETERANS (in yellow jackets) receive military honors.

We didn't get to watch the entire miniseries—that would have taken till the wee hours of the morning to finish. Instead, HBO showed 10 minutes from Part 1, all of Part 2, and 10 minutes from Part 3 to 10. Based on what we saw, "Band of Brothers" promises to be a combination of action-filled scenes and character-driven episodes. (*To be continued*)

Weekend movies cut the love, take the action

By Bob Tourtellotte

LOS ANGELES—There was so much romance in "Pearl Harbor" that action movie fans may find it refreshing to hear that "Swordfish" and "Evolution," which opened on Friday last week, have none of that love stuff mucking up all the fights.

DUCHOVNY. Fights aliens with tongue firmly in cheek.

Sex appeal

Producer Joel Silver ("The Matrix") lets the bullets fly in "Swordfish" with little l'amour but lots of sex appeal, including topless shots of Halle Berry and Hugh Jackman.

Headliner John Travolta keeps his shirt on, which may be a good thing since he's not as buff as he once was.

Director/Producer Ivan Reitman packs the same slimy silliness in "Evolution" that he put in "Ghostbusters I and II" except this time, stars David Duchovny, Julianne Moore, Orlando Jones and Seann William Scott save us all from aliens, not ghosts.

Okay, so there's some sexual banter between Duchovny's downtrodden biologist, Dr. Ira Kane, and Moore's clumsy epidemiologist, Allison. But there is more lust, than love, between these two: no promises, no rings and no babies.

Although he's battling aliens in "Evolution," Duchovny swears that Dr. Kane bears no resemblance to his serious-minded FBI Agent Fox Mulder from television's "The X-files," a role which he no longer will play.

"I know that when they (producers) ask who can save the world, they say 'Duchovny.' But I played this in disguise—I had blond tips," he joked in a recent interview.

Banished

Kane has been unofficially banished from the upper ranks of biological research to the lowly position of science professor at an Arizona community college when a meteor comes crashing to the desert floor.

Samples are taken from the meteor by his associate, geologist Harry Block, (Jones) who doubles as the coach of the women's volleyball team at the Glen Canyon, Arizona college, where drinking beer is more important than cramming for exams.

What Kane discovers in the rock sample are single cell organisms that divide and multiply faster than a person can say, "single cell organisms." And soon, the entire area around Glen Canyon is teaming with these creepy, crawly creatures.

Soon, the US Army and Centers for Disease Control, led by Allison, move in and take over what would be a Nobel Prize winning discovery for Kane and Block. But the feds unleash the aliens, and it's up to Kane, Block, Allison and Country Club pool boy/wannabe firefighter (Scott) to save the world.

"Comedy is the crux of the film," said Reitman. "The science is somewhat twisted and exaggerated."

Special effects

But along with the comedy comes a lot of firepower, special effects and a fast-paced story that will soothe any action lover's psyche after all of that "Pearl Harbor" romance.

The movie is rated "PG-13" for crude and sexual humor, and science fiction action.

"Swordfish," too, divorces itself from notions of love as a gang of high-tech mercenaries led by the icy Gabriel Shear (Travolta) looks to hack its way into highly encrypted government computers in order to steal $9.5 billion the feds collected from drug-runners.

"Gabriel thinks this money is really nobody's money. It's bad money, basically," said Travolta.

Shear has all the guns, helicopters, armor-plated autos and explosives he needs to pull off any heist, but to crack the feds' computers, he must have the world's best computer hacker, whom he finds in the reluctant Stanley Jobson (Jackman).

Jobson is now on parole and working as a roughneck in the oil fields of Texas when Shear dispatches his right-hand woman, Ginger (Berry) to entice Jobson into one last gig that will pay him enough money to win legal custody of his only daughter.

Rumors

A lot has been written about rumors that Berry was paid $500,000 to bare her breasts in one scene where she is sunbathing topless, but at a taping of this week's MTV Movie Awards, she told audiences the rumor wasn't true.

Still, she added, that if movie fans ever wanted to see her flash her breasts, they were going to have to pay their money at the box office.

And movie fans—especially action lovers—will likely not be disappointed in "Swordfish" because underneath the oozing sexuality and smoking guns, it has several plot twists dealing with the characters' identities and motives that will keep audiences guessing about the outcome of Gabriel's heist.

"Swordfish" is rated "R" for its violence, language, some sexuality and nudity. *Reuters*

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM JUNE 16 - JUNE 22

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	31
SAT	5.30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7.00 Arriba, Arriba 8.30 Da Body en Da Guard 9.30 Pinoy Exposed 10.00 Keep on Dancing 11.00 "F" 11.30 Sports Unlimited 12.00 The Weekend News	6.00 Auto Review 6.30 Uncut 7.00 The Working President 8.00 To Be Announced 10.00 Explore with Mike 11.00 National Network News 11.30 Auto Focus	6.00 Vampires 6.30 Sailormoon Super S 7.00 Tropang Trumpo 8.00 Ispup 9.00 Saturday Night Specials 11.00 Diagnosis Murder	5.30 Brigada Siete 7.00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8.00 Kakabakaba 9.00 GMA's BEST *Dolores Claiborne* 11.00 Master Showman Presents 12.30 GMA Network News 1.00 The 700 Club	6.00 Sports World 7.00 Invisible Man 8.00 Martial Law 9.00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Mercenary 2* 11.00 Business Class	7.00 Viva Premiere Night *Ikaw Lamang* 9.00 Kagat Ng Dilim 10.00 2001 PBA Commissioner's Cup Provincial Game Ormoc, City *Pop Cola vs. Tanduay*	6.00 Born Free 7.00 Lassie 7.30 Seventh Heaven 8.30 Gilmore Girls 9.30 Studio 23 Presents 12.00 MYX	3.00 Q Show Case 7.00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9.00 Oras ng Katotohanan 9.30 Armor of God 10.00 Oh Tokyo 11.00 Pinoy Wrestling	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! Coming Attractions 7.00 Celebrity Profile *Jim Carrey* 8.00 E! True Hollywood Story *Andy Kaufman* 10.00 David Letterman 11.00 Uncut *Michael Bolton* 11.30 Extreme Close Up *Keanu Reeves* 12.00 E! Coming Attractions
SUN	5.30 Knowledge Power 6.00 Sharon 7.00 Wansapanataym 8.30 Eto na ang Susunod na Kabanata 9.30 ABS-CBN Presents 11.30 The Weekend News	3.00 MBA 8.00 Primetime Specials 10.00 National Network News 10.30 Fashion Watch 11.00 Business & Leisure	6.00 Sinbad the Sailor 6.30 Guyferd 7.00 Sing-Galing 8.00 Wow Mali! 9.00 Eezy Dancing 10.00 Sunday Night Movies 12.00 Sentinel	5.30 Partners Mel and Jay 7.00 Biloy's World 7.30 GMA Telesine 9.30 Sunday Night Box Office *Rocky III* 11.30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents 12.00 GMA Network News 12.30 Little Night of Music	6.00 Shadow Raiders 6.30 Crash Zone 7.00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8.00 Just Kidding 8.30 Kids Say the Darnest Thing 9.00 Sunday's Big Event *Con Air* 11.00 Sunday Report	4.00 2001 PBA Commissioner's Cup Game 1 *SMB vs. Red Bull* 6.30 Game 2 *Mobiline vs. Shell* 9.00 Sinemaks *Ginto't Pilak* 11.00 Buhay Kamao *The Making* 11.30 El Shaddai	6.00 Starship Troopers 6.30 Rugrats 7.00 Batman Beyond 7.30 Futurama 8.00 The Nanny 8.30 Spin City 9.00 Will & Grace 9.30 Jack & Jill 10.30 Digital Tour 11.00 Sunday Night Movies	5.00 Quartermaster Window Shop 7.00 Sunday Mini-Series 8.00 Oh Tokyo 9.00 Sunday Night Movies 11.00 Bikini Open	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! Coming Attractions 7.00 True Hollywood Special 9.00 E! Special *In Censors We Trust* 10.00 What is a Producer? 11.00 60 minutes 12.00 E! Coming Attractions
MON	6.00 TV Patrol 7.00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7.30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8.00 Kaya ni Mister, Kaya ni Misis 9.30 Basta't Tayo'y Magkasama 11.00 Headlines 11.30 Correspondents 12.30 Martin Late@Nite 1.00 Global News	5.30 Pambansang Balita 6.00 To be announced 7.00 To be announced 10.00 National Network News 11.00 To be announced	6.00 F 6.30 Mahha Go Go Go 7.00 Guni-Guni 8.00 The Big Night *Michaels's Navy Join the Airforce* 10.00 The Big News 10.30 High Tide 11.30 The Big News (Replay)	6.00 Saksi 6.30 Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin 7.00 Lupin III 7.30 Pinoy Blockbusters *Manit sa Laban Renegade Soldier* 9.30 Kiss Muna 10.30 Front Page 11.00 I-Witness 12.00 The 700 Club	5.30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6.00 Quinceañera 6.30 Siempre Te Amare 7.00 Maria del Cielo 7.30 Sparks 8.00 World's Most Amazing Videos 9.00 The X-Files 10.00 Primetime Balita 10.30 NYPD Blue	7.30 NBA Action 8.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9.00 Viva Proudly Presents *Ma'am May We Go Out?* 11.00 Ronda Trese 11.30 Good Take	6.00 MYX 7.00 I Dream of Jeannie 7.30 Making the Band 8.00 Dawson's Creek 9.00 Charmed 10.00 News Central 10.30 Points of View 11.30 Grapevine 12.00 MYX	4.30 Quartermaster 6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Q Showcase 9.00 Ang Dating Daan 10.00 Q Showcase	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! News Daily 7.00 In Focus *Hot Young Hollywood* 8.00 Mysteries & Scandals 8.30 Search Party 9.00 Fashion Emergency 9.30 E! News Daily 10.00 60 Minutes 11.00 Wild on *D.C.* 12.00 Talk Soup
TUE	6.00 TV Patrol 7.00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7.30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8.00 Oka Tokat 9.00 Regal Presents 11.00 Headlines 11.30 Mission X 12.30 Martin Late@Nite 1.00 Global News	5.30 Pambansang Balita 6.00 2001 PBL Chairman's Cup 8.00 To be Announced 9.00 To be Announced 10.00 National Network News 11.00 Business Insight	6.00 Dragon League 6.30 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7.00 ABC Action Theater *Lady Kickboxer* 9.00 That '70s Show 9.30 Life with Roger 10.00 The Big News 10.30 FX The Series 11.30 The Big News (Replay)	6.00 Saksi 6.30 Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin 7.00 Lupin III 7.30 Kool Ka Lang 9.00 Kasangga 10.30 Front Page 11.00 The Probe Team 12.00 The 700 Club	5.30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6.00 Quinceañera 6.30 Siempre Te Amare 7.00 Maria del Cielo 7.30 Stark Raving Mad 8.00 Ally McBeal 9.00 The Practice 10.00 Primetime Balita 10.30 Pretender 11.30 Ngayon Na Pinoy	6.30 Bayan Ni Juan 7.00 DMZ TV 8.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9.00 NBA Finals (Replay) 11.00 Ronda Trese 11.30 Good Take	6.00 MYX 7.00 The Three Stooges 7.30 Baywatch 8.30 Angel 9.30 Mad About You 10.00 News Central 10.30 Oprah 11.30 Zine 12.00 MYX	4.30 Quartermaster 6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! News Daily 7.00 Celebrity Profile 8.00 E! True Hollywood Story 9.00 Celebrity Homes 9.30 E! News Daily 10.00 David Letterman 11.00 Uncut *Pattie Labelle* 11.30 Extreme Close Up *Will Smith* 12.00 Talk Soup
WED	6.00 TV Patrol 7.00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7.30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8.00 Pwedeng-Pwede 9.30 Kabalikat 11.00 Headlines 11.30 Isyu 101 12.30 Martin Late@Nite 1.00 Global News	5.30 Pambansang Balita 6.00 MBA 8.00 To be Announced 9.00 To be Announced 10.00 National Network News 11.00 Family Rosary Crusade	6.00 Pygmalio 6.30 Time Quest 7.00 Planet X 7.30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch 8.00 Chicago Sons 8.30 Friends 9.00 E.R. 10.00 The Big News 10.30 Phils.' Most Wanted 11.30 Police Academy	6.00 Saksi 6.30 Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin 7.00 Lupin III 7.30 3eh Bote Nga 9.00 Larawan 10.30 Front Page 11.00 Imbestigador 12.00 The 700 Club	5.30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6.00 Quinceañera 6.30 Siempre Te Amare 7.00 Maria del Cielo 7.30 Malcolm in the Middle 8.00 Roswell 9.00 Buffy the Vampire Slayer 10.00 Primetime Balita 10.30 Wrestling 11.30 Kasangga Mo Ay Langit	5.00 PBA Game 1 *Tanduay vs. Ginebra* 7.30 Game 2 *Sta. Lucia vs. Alaska* 10.00 Blow By Blow 11.00 Ronda Trese 11.30 Good Take	7.00 Twilight Zone 7.30 Survivor 2 8.30 When Hidden Camera Attacks 9.00 Gameplan 10.00 News Central 10.30 Oprah 11.30 The Explorer 12.00 MYX	4.30 Quartermaster 6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Q Showcase 9.00 Ang Dating Daan 10.00 Q Showcase	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! News Daily 7.00 InFocus *The Truth About Blondes* 8.00 Mysteries & Scandals 8.30 Search Party 9.00 Fashion Emergency 9.30 E! News Daily 10.00 David Letterman 11.00 Wild On *Beantown* 12.00 Talk Soup
THU	6.00 TV Patrol 7.00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7.30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8.00 Home Along da Riles 9.30 Maalaala Mo Kaya 11.00 Headlines 11.30 Pipol 12.30 Martin Late@Nite 1.00 Global News	5.30 Pambansang Balita 6.00 2001 PBL Chairman's Cup 8.00 To be Announced 9.00 To be Announced 10.00 National Network News 11.00 Fora Medica	6.00 Shulato 6.30 Fancy Lala 7.00 Guinness World Records 8.00 Soldier of Fortune 9.00 Burning Zone 10.00 The Big News 10.30 Strangers 11.00 New York Undercover 12.00 The Big News (Replay)	6.00 Saksi 6.30 Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin 7.00 Lupin III 7.30 1 For 3 8.30 Sinerama 10.30 Front Page 11.00 Debate with Mare at Pare 12.00 The 700 Club	5.30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6.00 Quinceañera 6.30 Siempre Te Amare 7.00 Maria del Cielo 7.30 Amazing People 8.00 Felicity 9.00 Once and Again 10.00 Primetime Balita 10.30 The Basketball Show 11.30 Police Hour	5.30 NBA Finals (Replay) 8.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9.00 TeleViva Specials *Lakbay* 11.00 Ronda Trese 11.30 Good Take	6.00 MYX 7.00 The Green Hornet 7.30 Cineplex 23 9.30 Guide to Urban Living 10.00 News Central 10.30 Oprah 11.30 Travel Time 12.00 MYX	4.30 Quartermaster 6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Q Showcase 9.00 Ang Dating Daan 10.00 Q Showcase	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! News Daily 7.00 Celebrity Profile *Henry Winkler* 8.00 E! True Hollywood Story 9.00 Celebrity Homes 9.30 E! News Daily 10.00 David Letterman 11.00 Uncut *Janet Jackson* 11.30 Extreme Close Up *Brandy* 12.00 Talk Soup
FRI	6.00 TV Patrol 7.00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7.30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8.00 Mystic Knights 8.30 Digimon 9.00 Star Cinema Presents 11.00 Headlines 11.30 True Crime 12.30 Martin Late@Nite	5.30 Pambansang Balita 6.00 MBA 8.00 To be Announced 9.00 Pulsong Masa 10.00 National Network News 11.00 Paco Park Presents	6.00 Lazenca 6.30 Restol 7.00 Top of the Pops 7.30 By Request 8.00 Touched By an Angel 9.00 Working 9.30 Normal Ohio 10.00 The Big News 10.30 Friday Box Office *For Loving You*	6.00 Saksi 6.30 Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin 7.00 Lupin III 7.30 Pokemon 8.00 Bubble Gang 9.30 GMA Love Stories 10.30 Front Page 11.00 Emergency 12.00 One Cubed	5.30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6.00 Quinceañera 6.30 Siempre Te Amare 7.00 Maria del Cielo 7.30 Holding the Baby 8.00 Dharma & Greg 8.30 Nikki 9.00 City of Angels 10.00 Primetime Balita 10.30 TV Greats on Friday *Gary V By Request II - Part I*	5.00 PBA Game 1 *Purefoods vs. Pop Cola* 7.30 Game 2 *SMB vs. Mobiline* 10.00 Gags Must be Crazy 11.00 Ronda Trese 11.30 Last Fool Show	6.30 MYX 7.00 Batman 7.30 Exposed 8.30 West Wing 9.30 Murphy Brown 10.00 News Central 10.30 Oprah 11.15 Nightman 12.00 MYX	4.30 Quartermaster 6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6.00 CBS Evening News 6.30 E! News Daily 7.00 InFocus *Laugh Your Aspen Off* 8.00 Mysteries & Scandals 8.30 Search Party 9.00 Fashion Emergency 9.30 E! News Daily 10.00 David Letterman 11.00 Wild On *Sunshine State* 12.00 Talk Soup

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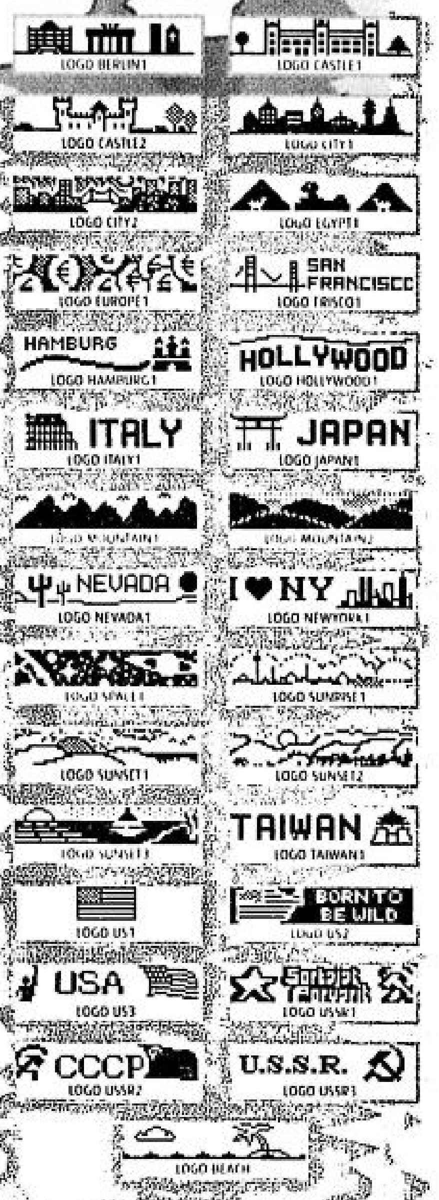
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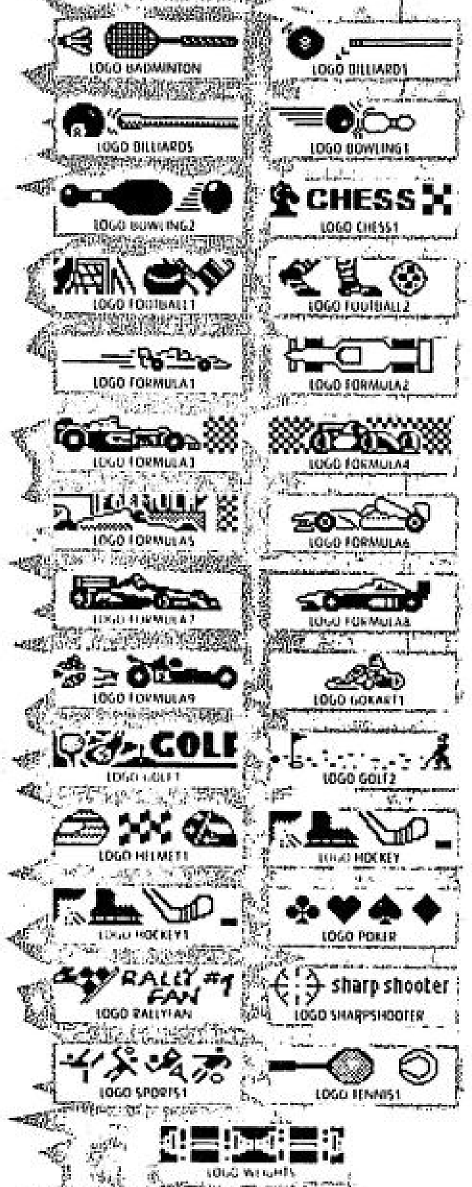
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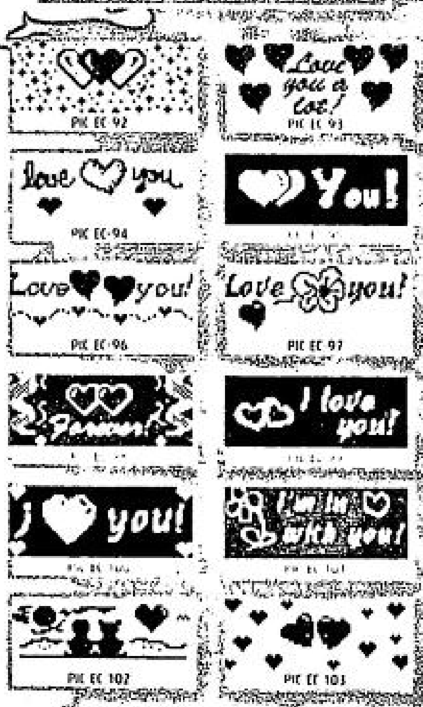
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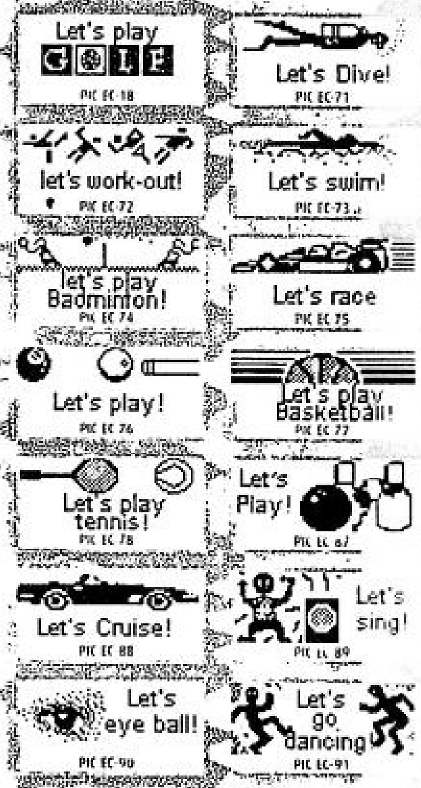
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Hotel California	Eagles	TONE HOTELCALI
Iris	Googoo Dolls	TONE IRIS
Jump	Van Halen	TONE JUMP
Layla	Eric Clapton	TONE LAYLA
Losing My Religion	REM	TONE LOSINMY
Love Potion No.9	Jed Leiber	TONE LUVPOTION
Other Side	Red Hot Chili Peppers	TONE OTHRSYD
Someday	Sugar Ray	TONE SUMDAY
Strange Love	Depeche Mode	TONE STRNGELV
The Final Countdown	Europe	TONE FINALCNT
Turning Japanese	Vapors	TONE JAPANIS
Under The Bridge	Red Hot Chili Peppers	TONE UNDRBRDG
Whole Lotta Love	Led Zeppelin	TONE WHOLOTALUV

tv

description	artist/composer	keyword
Ally McBeal Theme	Vonda Shepard	TONE ALLMYC
Babylon 5 Theme	TV Cue	TONE BABYLON5
Batman Theme	Danny Elfman	TONE BATMAN
Dallas (TV Cue)	Stephen Immel	TONE DALLAS
Doogie Howser Theme		TONE DOOGIE
Flintstone (TV Cue)	TV Cue	TONE FLINSTO
Jeopardy Theme	Merv Griffin	TONE JEPRDY
Scooby Doo Theme	Joseph Barbera	TONE SCOOBY
Simpsons Theme	Danny Elfman	TONE SIMPSONS

movie

description	artist/composer	keyword
Addams Family Theme	Mike Post	TONE ADDAMS
Animal Song	Savage Garden	TONE ANIMAL
Duel Of the Fates	Star Wars Episode 1	TONE EPISODE1
Dying Young	James Newton Howard	TONE DIEYOUNG
Godfather Theme	N. Rota	TONE GODFATHER
I Don't Wanna Miss A Thing	Matt Serletic	TONE MISATHNG
I Say A Little Prayer	My Best Friend's Wedding	TONE SAYALIL
Rocky Theme	Carol Conners	TONE ROCKY
Star Wars 3 Theme	John Williams	TONE STRWARS3
Superman Theme	Leon Klatskin	TONE SUPERMAN
The Imperial March	The Empire Strikes Back	TONE IMPERIAL
Under The Sea	Little Mermaid	TONE UNDERSEA
Xmen Theme		TONE XMEN

special

description	artist/composer	keyword
Fiddler On The Roof	Harnick	TONE FIDDLER
Birdland	Joseph Zawinul	TONE BIRDLAND
Songbird	Kenny G	TONE SONGBIRD

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2 Send to 288.

RING TONE RECEIVED.

3 Save upon receiving ring tone.

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Music world toasts new star tenor

By Pocholo Concepcion

THERE are no accidents in life. Everything is destined to happen. But it seems like the most memorable moments in music occur by chance.

Like the way Elvis Presley, the Beatles, the Clash, even Steely Dan or some of the great jazz records burst into our consciousness.

Now it's time to tell you about Russell Watson, the 27-year-old toast of the world of opera.—Say that again?

Debut album

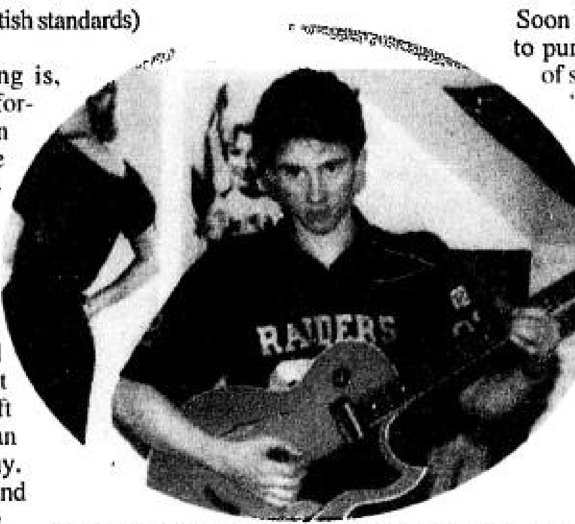
Yup, Watson is, according to press reports, the current darling of classical music, by virtue of his having recorded "The Voice" (Decca/Universal), his debut album that has shot all the way to the top of the charts.

Recently, it was *numero uno* in the UK classical chart, ahead of the album of the world's best-selling tenor, Andrea Bocelli. It was also No. 5 in the UK pop charts, going double platinum (600,000 units by British standards) in three months.

The strange thing is, Watson has had no formal vocal training in operatic arias before he went into the recording studio.

A little history:

The son of a factory worker, Watson was born in Salford, an industrial town in Northwest England. At 16, he left school to work in an engineering company. His job: to put nuts and bolts into a machine.


YOUNG Watson plodded on for six long years before making it.

Schoolboy

But the guy loved to entertain and sing in front of people. As a schoolboy, he remembers joining a local radio talent competition and besting other 400 contestants!

Soon he quit his boring day job to pursue the romantic notion of singing in the club circuit.

"It was tough," said Watson. "I mean, 'beans-on-toast-every-night' tough, driving to the venue with a suit and a pair of speakers to boot, never knowing what kind of reception I was going to get."

To have an idea of Watson's early repertoire: Michael Bolton, Meatloaf (did I hear you say yuk?), and Elvis numbers. He plodded on for six, long years before making it.

It was no accident that the young Watson used to sleep to the Chopin, Schubert, Wagner, Verdi and Puccini records that his parents were fond of playing.

As an album, 'The Voice' could well serve as an idiot's guide to the appreciation of opera

WATSON. The current darling of classical music.

And so one night, a member of the audience in a club gig requested for "Nessun dorma" from Turandot. Watson obliged, in the process discovering something that had been there all along: he could do opera!

As an album, "The Voice" could well serve as an idiot's guide to the appreciation of opera. No matter that Watson bellows out the songs' emotions in Italian, because right beside the Italian lyrics are their English translations.

Thankful

I have, for the life of me, never been this thankful for the opportunity of turning on to such wonderful classical material as "La donna e mobile" (Verdi/Piave), "Funiculi –funicula" (Denza/Turco) and "Amor ti vieta" (Girodano/Colautti), among others, including newly written stuff like "Miserere," "Caruso" and "Nella fantasia."

The last three managed to sweep me off my feet. "Miserere" has power, "Caruso" has romance, and "Nella fantasia" has idealism. Sample lyrics: "In my mind, I imagine a world of justice/Where everyone lives peaceful and honest lives . . ."

I bet you'll run off to the nearest Tower Records store once the secret is out: that in between the classical stuff of "The Voice" are contained the following surprising tracks:

"Someone Like You" (Gordon/Mahoney/Watson), a heart-tugging pop duet with Cleopatra Higgins of the English R&B group Cleopatra; "Barcelona" (Freddie Mercury/Moran), a hip version with Shaun Ryder of the Happy Mondays; and the timeless Simon and Garfunkel staple, "Bridge Over Troubled Water," in which Watson gives us an idea how he sounds when his voice is on relaxed mode.

Make no mistake about it. Russell Watson is young and looks like your typical boy band idol. Yet, at his age, the critics are brash enough to proclaim that he can match the vocal prowess of Luciano Pavarotti.

This early, he has sung before a crowd of 60,000 cheering fans at the Old Trafford stadium in Manchester.

This dude is going places!

been working hard? expect a bonus this weekend.

This Father's Day, go to a place where you can wine, dine, watch the coolest shows, and get paid back for a job well done.

AYALA CENTER MAKATI
June 17, Ogie Alcasid at 5:30pm, Glorietta 4 Park.
Free gifts from Bench and Hard Rock Cafe.
Plus special treats at Food Choices from 3-10pm.

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
June 17, The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra at 5pm, Activity Center.

AYALA CENTER CEBU
June 17, Father & Son Look-alike Contest with Donna Cruz at 1pm, Activity Center.
Free Novelino wines and Coke in cans for the first 250 fathers with single receipts worth P200 from any ACC stores.

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Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more!

'Eureka' is tedious but oddly compelling

By Anthony Breznican

LOS ANGELES—The Japanese drama "Eureka" highlights the little sounds—the hollow click of a light switch, the distant whoosh of a stream as the shoe of a murder victim floats away.

Writer-Director Shinji Aoyama exaggerates these noises throughout the movie, setting the mood for his story in a way the tenor in an actor's voice or the swell of a musical score normally does.

Attention

The film, photographed in beautiful brown-and-white tones, is tedious at times, and its story never quite makes sense. Even admirers may find their attention waning after the second hour, but the 3 1/2-hour movie remains oddly compelling.

The story follows a bizarre friendship that evolves between three survivors of a bloody hostage standoff: a bus driver, a teen-age boy and his little sister.

Koji Yakusho plays the bus driver, Makoto, who tries to drop out of the world after the hijacking, and isn't seen for two years.

The siblings drop out also, although they never physically hide. They exist in a world of silent stares and suppressed terror. Their mother has abandoned them and their father is later killed in a car crash.

Aghast

Naoki (Yoichiro Saito) has been rendered nearly mad and can no longer function in society. His sister, Kozue, played by Masaru Miyazaki, is aghast that she gets money from an insurance settlement after her father's death.

Like all characters in this movie, she suffers this distress quietly, never yowling, but fighting her tears and trying to not to let the hurt show. Only her hollow-looking face can't hide it.

Two years after the hijacking, the driver meets up with the orphaned duo, and decides to return to society by helping them salvage their lives.

But a murderer is loose in the town, and the strange bus driver soon becomes a prime suspect.

Despite the hijacking and the serial-killer subplot, the violence in "Eureka" is minimal. This is not a thriller like "Speed" or "Seven." It's a look at the scars that remain long after the action is over. *AP*

Junior INQUIRER

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2001 ◆ 12 PAGES ◆ VOLUME 5, NUMBER 35

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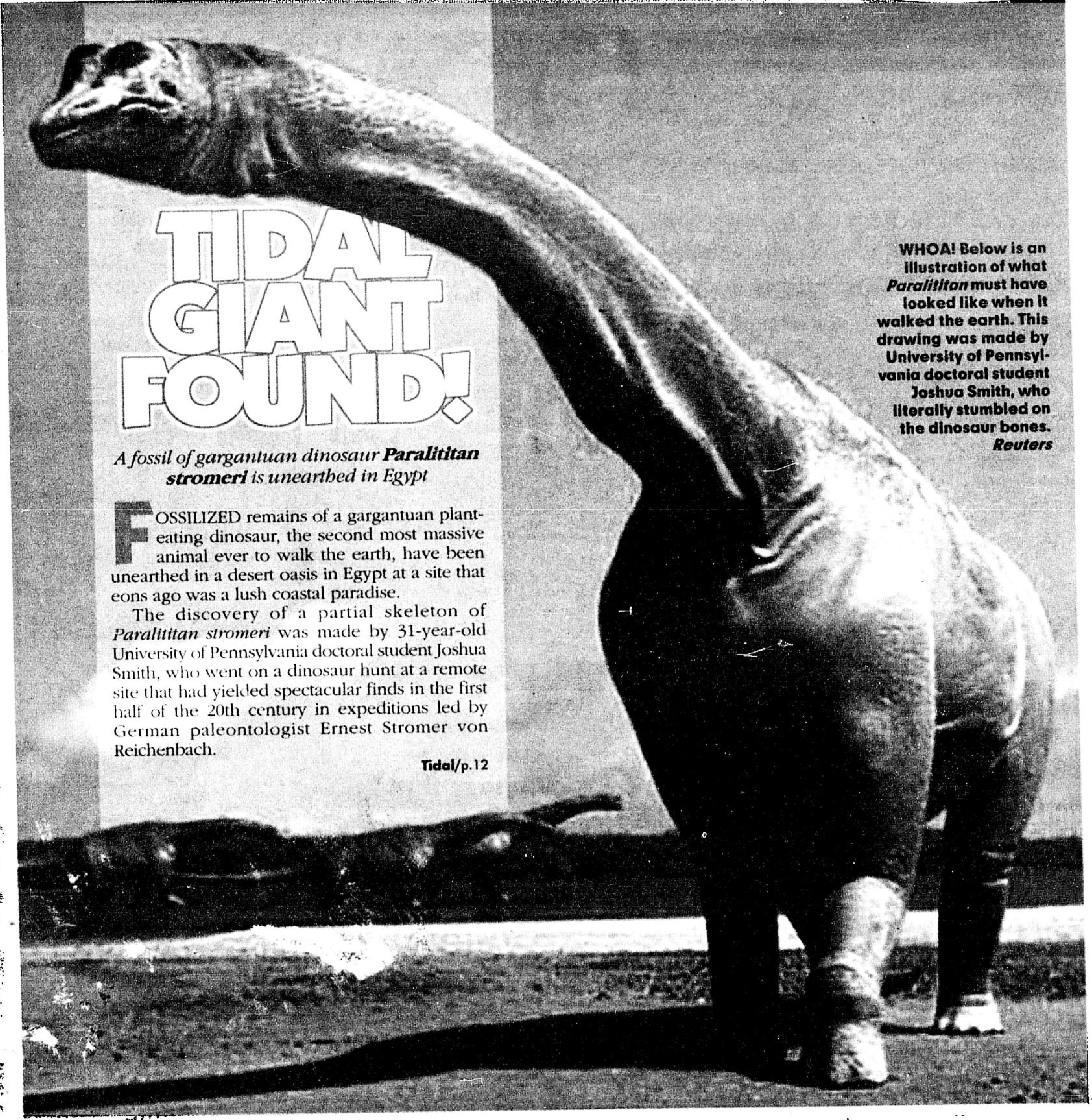
- **Batch RTO** Page 10
- **The Lunch Box** Page 11



WHOA! Below is an illustration of what *Paralititan* must have looked like when it walked the earth. This drawing was made by University of Pennsylvania doctoral student Joshua Smith, who literally stumbled on the dinosaur bones. ***Reuters***

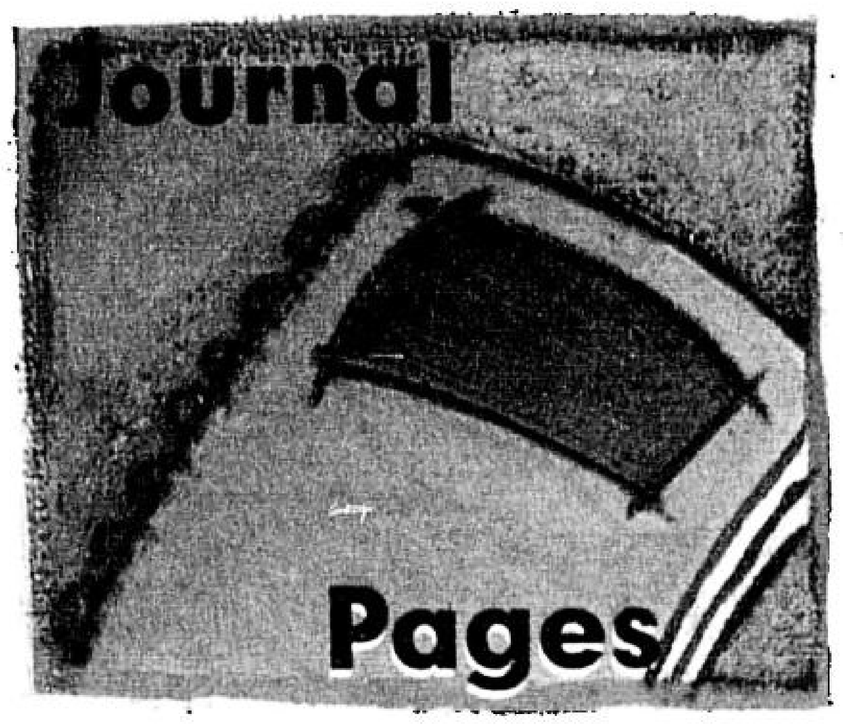
TIDAL GIANT FOUND!

A fossil of gargantuan dinosaur ***Paralititan stromeri*** *is unearthed in Egypt*

FOSSILIZED remains of a gargantuan plant-eating dinosaur, the second most massive animal ever to walk the earth, have been unearthed in a desert oasis in Egypt at a site that eons ago was a lush coastal paradise.

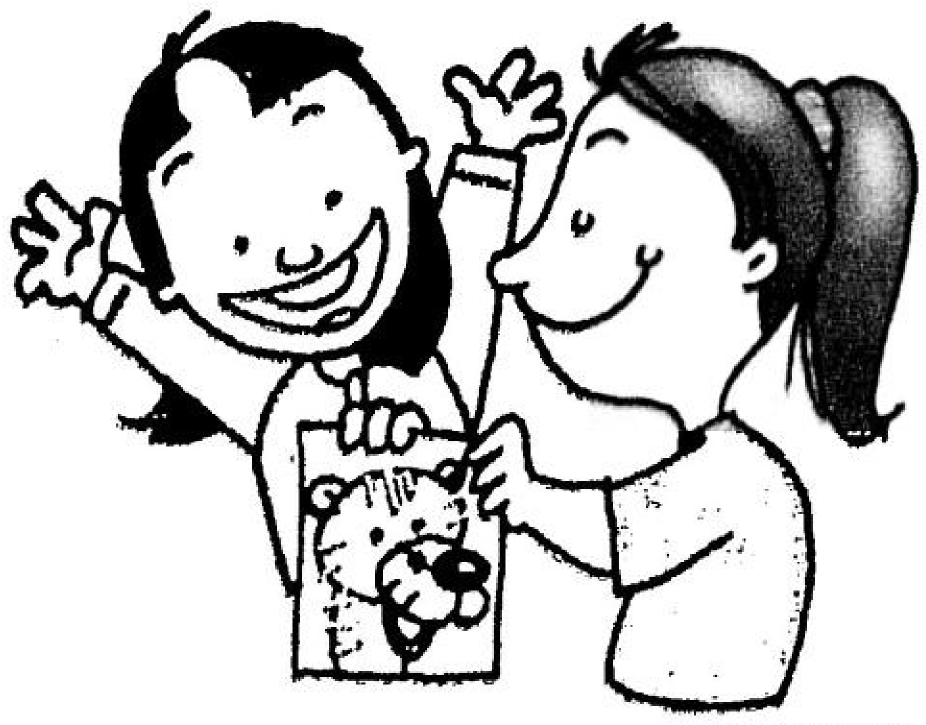
The discovery of a partial skeleton of *Paralititan stromeri* was made by 31-year-old University of Pennsylvania doctoral student Joshua Smith, who went on a dinosaur hunt at a remote site that had yielded spectacular finds in the first half of the 20th century in expeditions led by German paleontologist Ernest Stromer von Reichenbach.

Tidal/p.12



My Visit to the School for the Deaf

BY DANIELLE FRANCESCA A. LEONARDO
ASSUMPTION ANTIPOLO


STEPH BRAVO

AS I WAS reading JUNIOR INQUIRER's issue on June 2, 2001, I was struck by Niranand Kumar's article, which was "Day with the Orphans." It is because when I was just his age, I myself went to a trip like his.

Three years ago—when I was in Grade 4—our club (A.M.A.—Associate Missionaries of the Assumption) went to S.A.I.D.—a school for the deaf children in Marikina City.

During our visits, there were presentations by them and by us. I was fascinated by their performances! Their actions really followed the rhythm of the music.

Then we formed groups and sat in a circle. We played games and they also taught us sign language. It was pretty neat!

Then our teacher told us we had to go back to our school. It was such a lovely and a really memorable afternoon. I also received two letters from two of their students. One letter had a drawing of Tigger and I really loved it—it is still with me up to now!

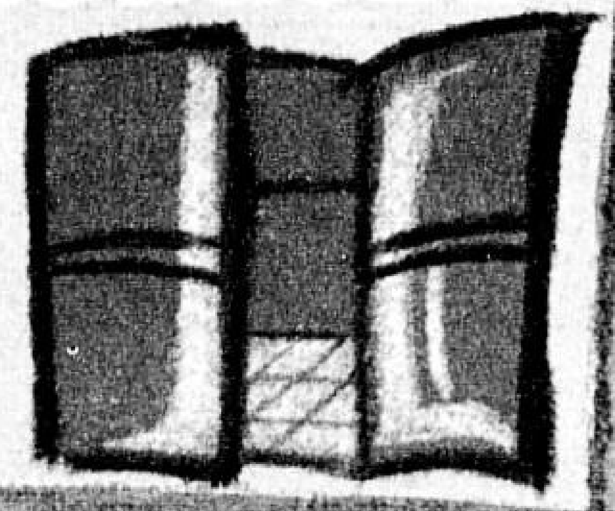
That day, I felt so lucky (like Niranand) for getting a chance to interact with kids like them. I thanked the Lord that night for giving me my complete needs which other kids don't have.

So, feel thankful and blessed for having such nice things that other kids don't have. Don't be stubborn just because your parents did not buy what you wanted. Think of the people who just wished they were as lucky as you are.

Sound Familiar ?
Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

Straight from JI Readers

You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!

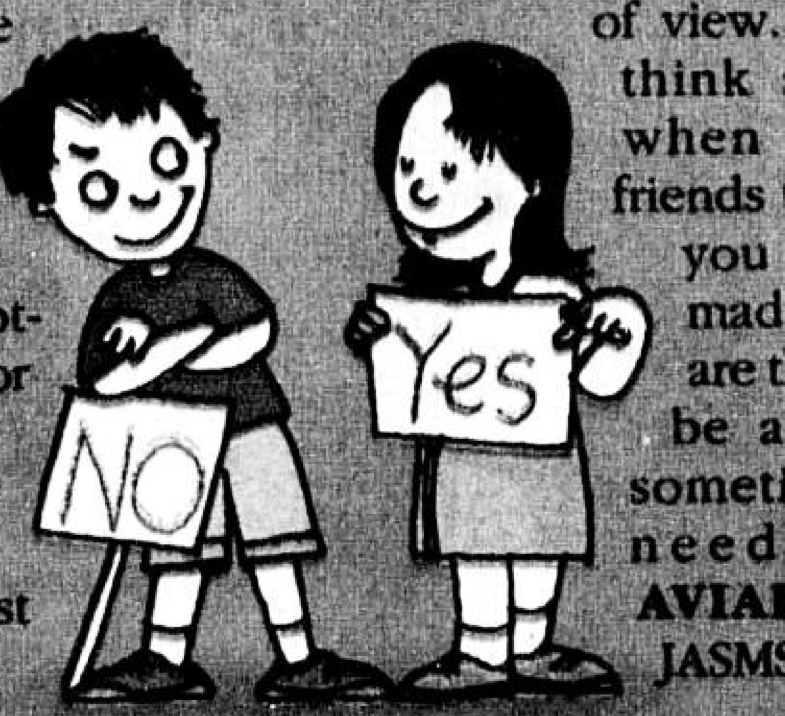


Debates that will never grow old

DEAR Editor,

I have been reading JI since I was 9 and every other week or so kids have wars against each other, here are the debates so far:

- Harry Potter—Demonic or adventurous?
- Animé—waste of paper or coolest thing on TV?
- TV vs Books



STEPH BRAVO

But what I have learned is everybody has there own point of view. So even if you think animé is trash when you're other friends think its treasure you should not get mad at them debates are there so this wont be a boring world, sometimes fights are needed.—**DIANA AVIADO**, 13, PWU-JASMSs

The movie in her mind

HAVE you ever wondered why some dreams are so weird? I always have. I think dreams tell us something. Some dreams sometimes come true. Some dreams are also extensions of our imaginations. We are the writers, actors and directors of our nighttime dreams. So, if that's true, all of us can make our own movies in our dreams!—**LIANNE DAVID**, 13, Antipolo City

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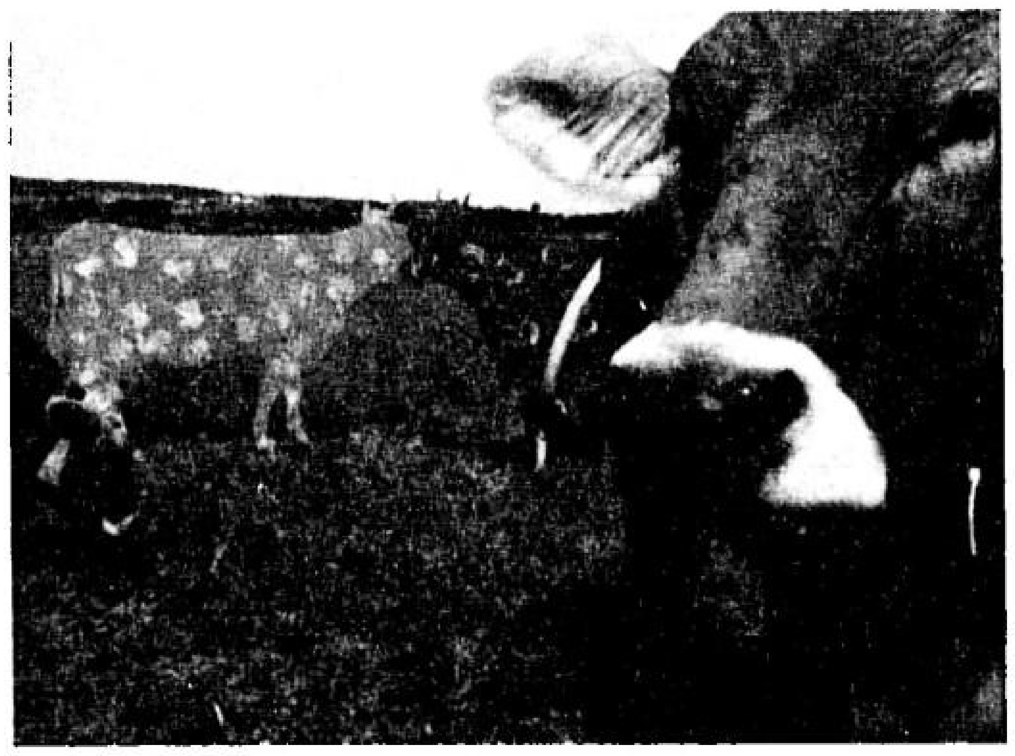
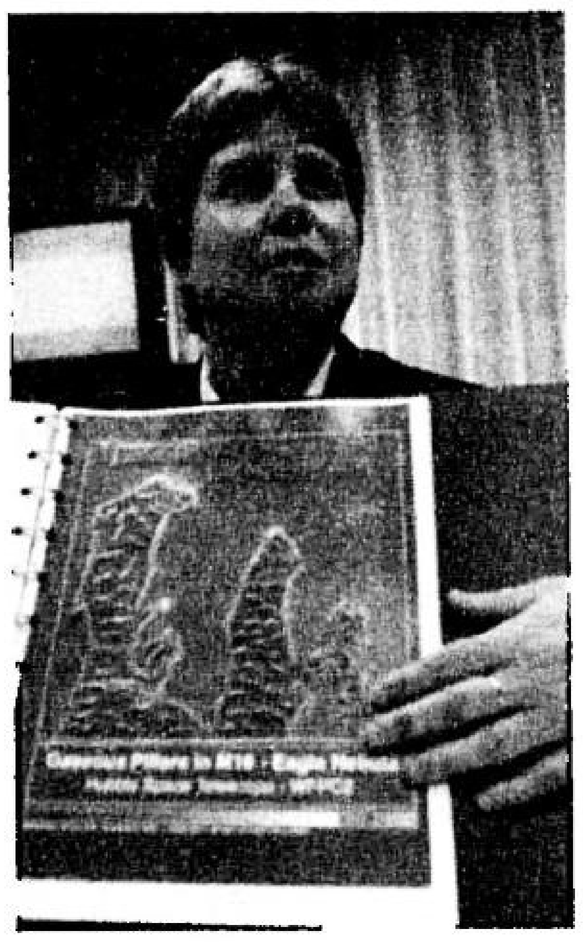
WORLD SCOPE



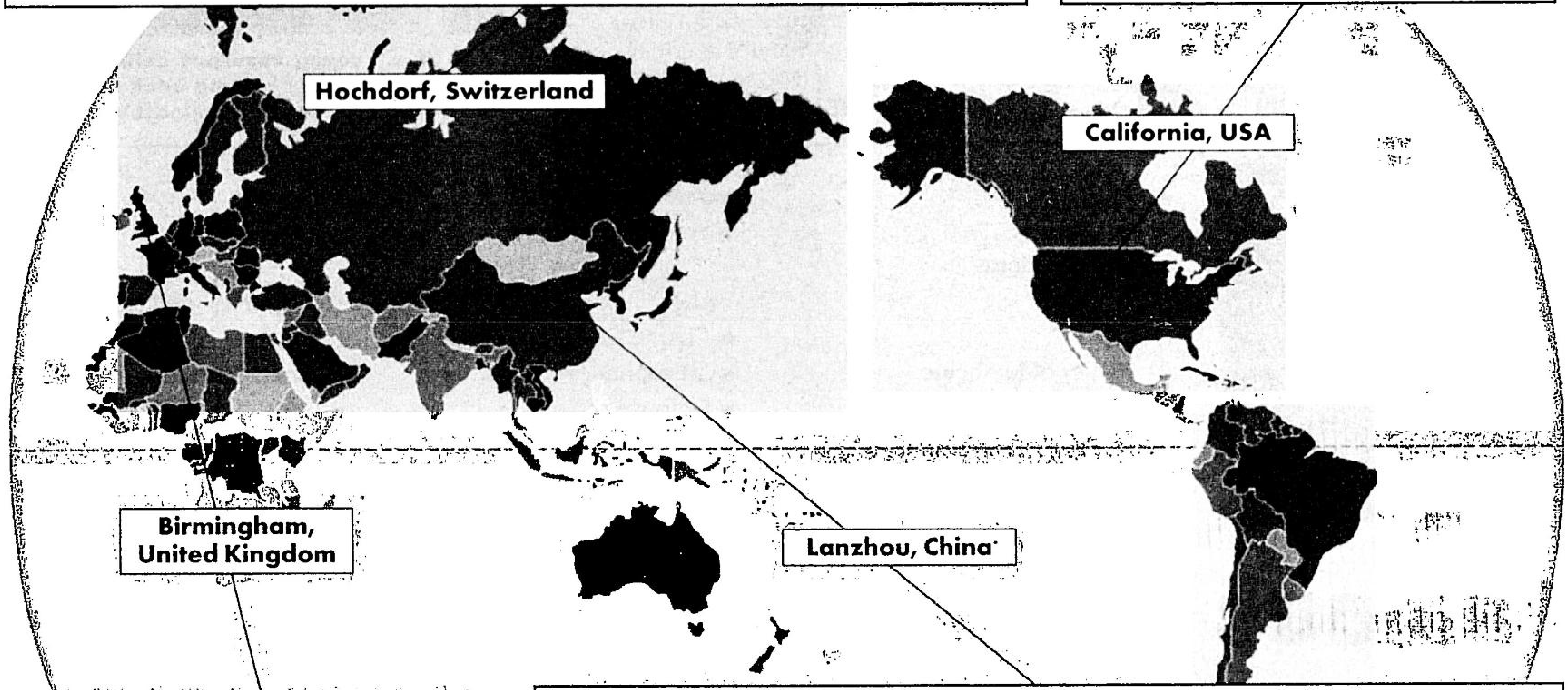
Cow-abunga!

A CURIOUS cow looks at the photographer as it stands on a meadow of Swiss farmer Burri. Colorful cow-shaped cardboard cutouts, painted by children during an agricultural fair in Lucerne, Switzerland, in April, currently decorate the meadows in this Swiss region in an action aimed at promoting outdoor farming of cattle and livestock. The recent agricultural fair in Lucerne was held without any livestock present due to the fears of spreading the foot-and-mouth disease. ***AP***

Blind Astronomy



ASTRONOMER and author Noreen Grice holds a copy of the first-ever book of celestial images captured by the Hubble Space Telescope printed in braille titled, "Touch the Universe: A NASA Braille Book of Astronomy," at a news conference in Pasadena. The book contains tactile illustrations with colorful images of planets, nebulae and galaxies. ***AP***

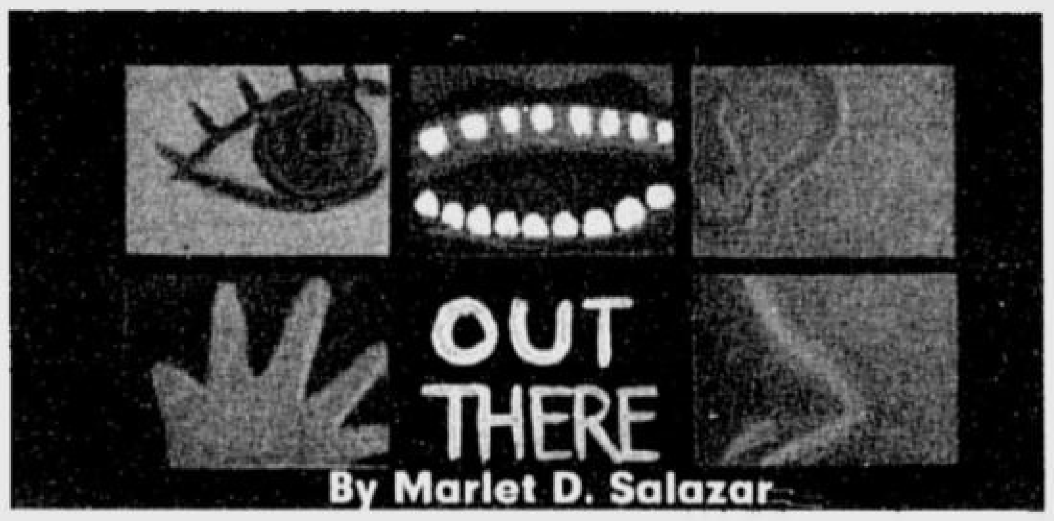


Doggie Champ

CHAMPION Jethard Cidevant, the Basenji dog known as Sid poses with owner Paul Singleton from Colchester, Essex, after being named a Supreme Champion at this year's Cruft dog show. ***AP***

The Smile Train

AN AMERICAN doctor from the US-based "Smile Train" tries to make a little patient relax before undergoing operation. The "Smile Train" has provided free surgery to more than 5,000 Chinese children suffering from cleft lips and palates since 1991. ***AP***



By Marlet D. Salazar

Announcement

PBBY CONTEST ENTRIES. Those who joined the 2000 PBBY Illustrator's Prize can now claim their entries at 73-A Scout Limbaga St., Quezon City. For more info call up the PBBY Secretariat at 372-3548 or 49, or you can send an e-mail to adarnahouse@adarna.com.ph

Activities

EXHIBIT. Check out the works of illustrator and Atomo's creator Lyra Abueg Garcellano, Corinne Ching, Nona Garcia and Topel Lee in the exhibit "Sober Playthings" in the main gallery of the artist-run space Surrounded by Water which is located at 187-A Arle Square, the Pied Piper Place, Edsa, Mandaluyong City. The exhibit runs until June 30. For inquiries call 724-2027.

Cable Picks

PAMANA. "Pamana," Knowledge Channel's locally produced show about Heograpiya, Kasaysayan at Sibika (Hekasi), features ABS-CBN talent Jiro Manio as Nico Bautista. Nico discovers his school's magical library where he meets a cloud rat, Bobby Buot, whose family was scattered all over the Philippines. Bobby Buot becomes Nico's friend as well as his link to the magical adventures inside the book. With every adventure, Nico and Bobby Buot learn to understand and appreciate Philippine culture and history. Watch "Pamana" on the Knowledge Channel (SkyCable channel 16).

EXTREME ADVENTURE. In Discovery Channel's "Adventure Race: New Zealand" witness the trials of several of the world's best adventure teams as they mountain trek, bike, kayak, and rappel through one of the toughest courses ever seen on the adventure racing circuit. Tune in to the Discovery Channel on today and tomorrow at 8 p.m. on Discovery Channel.

DEEP INTO THE OCEAN. Join National Geographic Channel in the new series "Pioneers of the Deep," where France's marine researchers explore the deep ends of the ocean using advance equipment. Catch it every Wednesday at 9:30 p.m.

On TV

5 & UP'S B-DAY! Join the whole gang of "5 & Up" as they take a trip down the memory lane. The young reporters look back on the different challenges they survived during their field assignments—from the mountains of Palawan and Ifugao to the cold streets in New York. Watch "5 & Up" tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. on GMA-7.

"5 & UP's " young reporters celebrate the show's anniversary looking back at the fun and adventure they had the past year.

Got something for Out There?

Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

¿ThinkathoN?
By Bong Barrameda

Famous 'Fathers'

THERE are real fathers...and there are 'Fathers,' each eternally celebrated for 'siring' a special 'brainchild.' Can you identify the right 'Father' in every number?

1. Father of History
   - Adam
   - Herodotus
   - Cicero

2. Father of Medicine
   - Hippocrates
   - Mercury
   - Asclepius

3. Father of English Poetry
   - William Shakespeare
   - Edgar Allan Poe
   - Geoffrey Chaucer

4. Father of His Country
   - Julius Caesar
   - Mao Zedong
   - George Washington

5. Father of the Hydrogen Bomb
   - Edward Teller
   - J. Robert Oppenheimer
   - Albert Einstein

6. Father of the Faithful
   - Abraham
   - Moses
   - St. Joseph

7. Father of Comedy
   - Charlie Chaplin
   - Aristophanes
   - Dolphy

8. Father of the Philippine Revolution
   - Emilio Aguinaldo
   - Jose Rizal
   - Andres Bonifacio

9. Father of Philippine Journalism
   - Marcelo H. Del Pilar
   - Carlos P. Romulo
   - Graciano Lopez Jaena

10. Father of Philippine Radio
    - Johnny de Leon
    - Francisco "Koko" Trinidad
    - Nick Aragon

11. Father of Philippine Movies
    - Lamberto Avellana
    - Fernando Poe, Sr.
    - Jose Nepomuceno

12. Father of the Philippine Internet
    - Amable Aguiluz
    - Dr. Rodolfo Villarica
    - Jim Ayson

Answers:

1. Herodotus
2. Hippocrates
3. Geoffrey Chaucer
4. George Washington
5. Edward Teller
6. Abraham
7. Aristophanes
8. Andres Bonifacio
9. Marcelo H. del Pilar
10. Francisco "Koko" Trinidad
11. Jose Nepomuceno
12. Dr. Rodolfo Villarica

Ratings:

super brain!
11 - 12

excellent
9 - 10

good!
6 - 8

The Return of the School

BY NICO MIGUEL N. GARCIA OF PAREF-SOUTHRIDGE SCHOOL; JEIFLYN DIZON OF MIRIAM COLLEGE GRADE SCHOOL, XIOMARA QUIÑONES OF JOSE ABAD SANTOS MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN QUEZON CITY; AARON DANTE M. MAMIIT OF LA SALLE GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN AND STANLY GALO C. SY OF XAVIER SCHOOL

WELL, summer's over. And while some of you may be raring to go back to school, some could be dragging their feet. JI snoopers asked Metro Manila kids what kind of nifty changes they would like to see in their schools and this is what they found out.

"I want the school to have more colors, to be nicer. There should be more art and science—to paint, create and learn more about animals."

—***Robbie Uy Lacuna***, *7, Xavier School*

"The classrooms should be with aircon. I want cooler field trips and free food in our canteen because I have little allowance and get really hungry. They should put a slide in the swimming pool and a mini zoo for more animals."

—***Juancho Almanzor***, *10, De La Salle-Zobel, Alabang*

"We have art classes but all we do is draw. I want to paint."

—***Misake Matsuoka***, *8, OB Montessori, Greenhills*

"Make the clinic bigger. Make the stairs a bit bigger."

—***Mervin Ledesma***, *9, Xavier School, Greenhills, San Juan*

"Make the classrooms bigger. Make the teachers use a microphone so as not to make them shout or yell."

—***Stephanie Gayle C. Sy***, *8, Immaculate Conception Academy, San Juan*

"To have additional sports, put a swimming pool and have swimming lessons. There should be more air-conditioned classrooms because the weather gets really hot. Also, a mini museum should be placed in the school so that instead of just studying in the classroom, students can study in the museum to make it easier to learn things."

—***Jan Villamater***, *10, Paref-Southridge School*

"I want my classroom to be near the Grade 6 classes for me to hear what they are talking about."

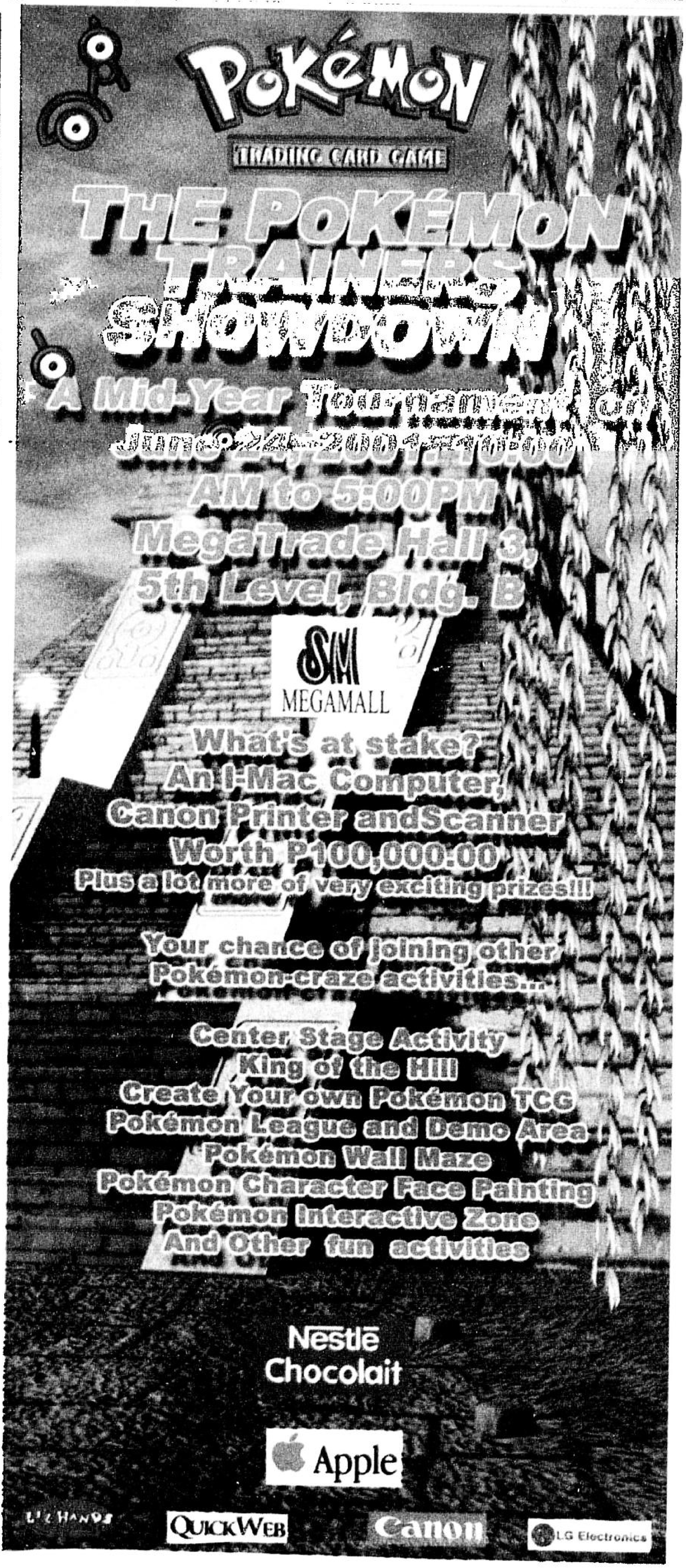
—***Kyle Mitschiener***, *5, The Learning Child*

"I want our classrooms to be converted into swimming pools so we could swim around while we study."

—***Isabela Balce Lavalan***, *11, Waldorf-Einstein, Heroes Hills, Diliman*

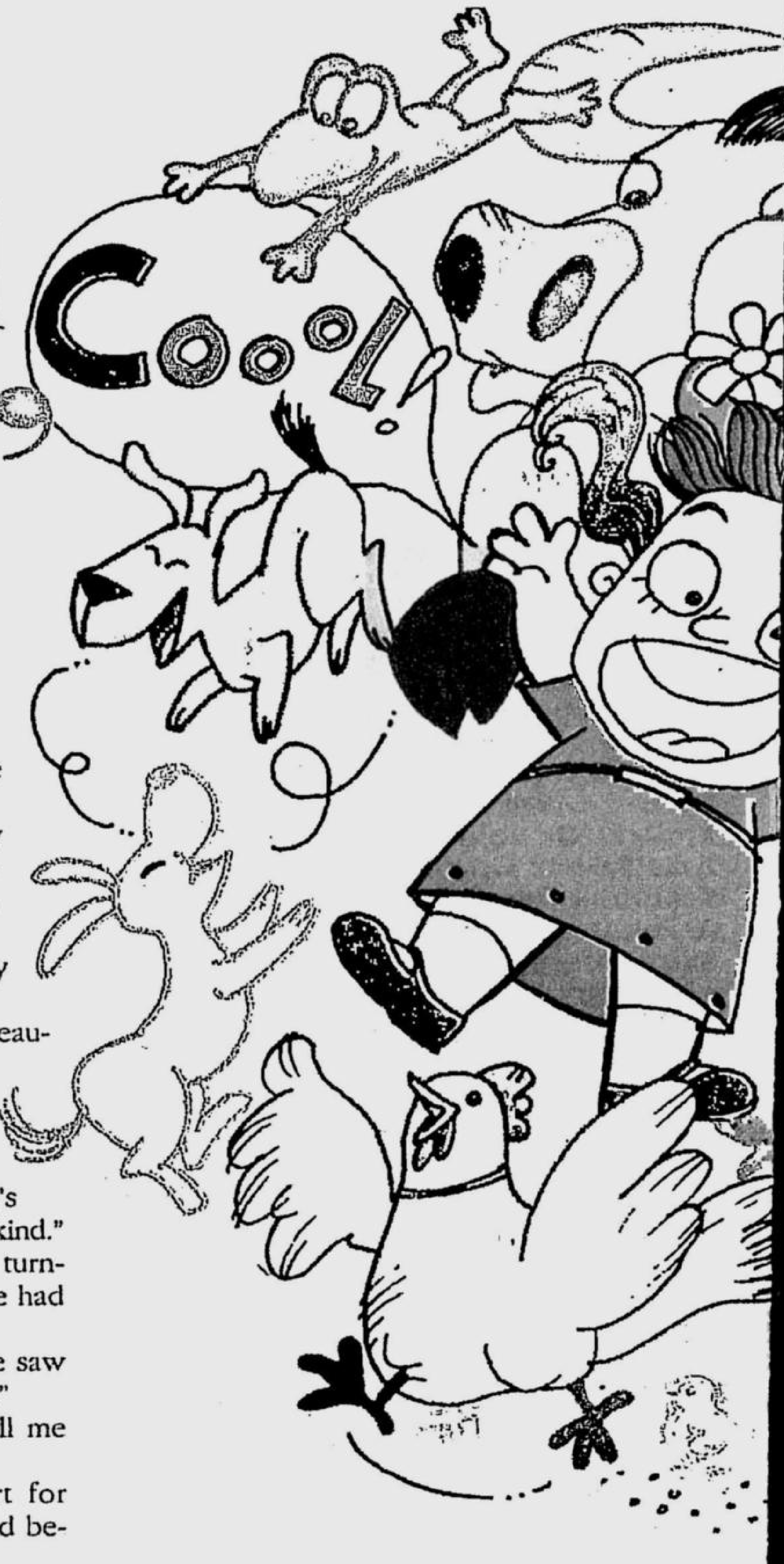
"I want a puppy in each classroom and I don't want to wear a uniform anymore."

—***Jim Bondal***, *8, Claret, Diliman*



POKÉMON
TRADING CARD GAME
THE POKÉMON TRAINERS SHOWDOWN
A Mid-Year Tournament on June 24, 2001 10:00 AM to 5:00PM
MegaTrade Hall 3, 5th Level, Bldg. B
SM MEGAMALL
What's at stake?
An I-Mac Computer, Canon Printer andScanner
Worth P100,000.00
Plus a lot more of very exciting prizes!!!
Your chance of joining other Pokémon-craze activities...
Center Stage Activity
King of the Hill
Create Your own Pokémon TCG
Pokémon League and Demo Area
Pokémon Wall Maze
Pokémon Character Face Painting
Pokémon Interactive Zone
And Other fun activities
Nestlé Chocolait
Apple
LI'L HANDS
QuickWeb
Canon
LG Electronics

Meong and the Big-eyed 'Balikbayan'



Pearlie is from England. Meong is annoyed. In the end, the 'balikbayan' teaches Meong a thing or two aboput his country and himself

STORY BY JC CHONG
ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPH BRAVO

MEONG was startled in his sleep by a loud knocking on the gate. "Huuhh??! What's that?"

Blag, blag, blag. "Good morning!" It was an old man's voice.

Meong jumped up. It was almost 4 a.m. Time to go to the farm! He ran to the window and saw his father, Ramon, rushing to let the early caller in. It was their neighbor, *Lolo* Jose.

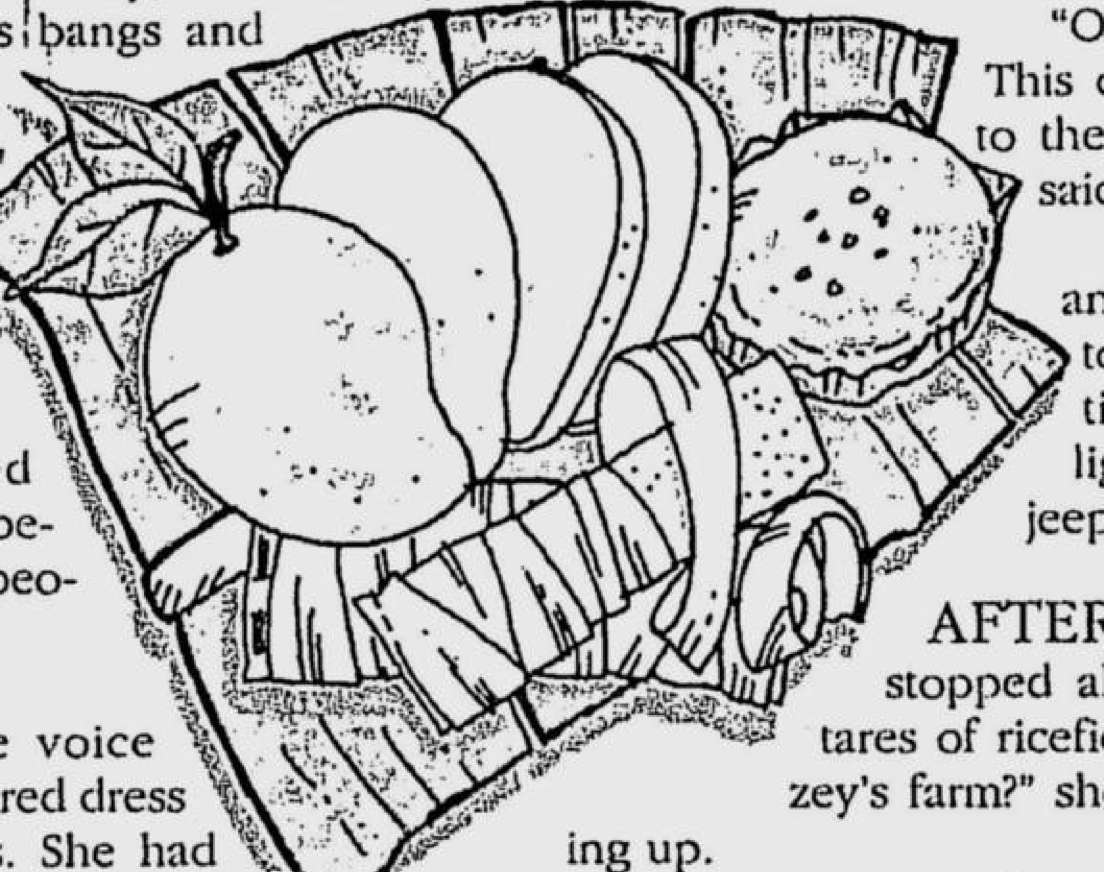
The old man limped as he spoke. "Ramon, please help me. My granddaughter from England arrived last night. And I promised to take her early to the farm. . .but my *rayuma* is . . .*annay!*" His face crumpled in pain.

"No problem," Ramon replied. Meong hated it when his *tatay* said that. It meant he was about to help someone again. Sure enough, he promised *Lolo* Jose, "Meong and I will take her to the farm."

"No!" Meong cried. He didn't like going to the farm but he was looking forward to climbing trees and playing marbles with his friends after his work there was done.

"No! I don't want to go to the farm with a *balikbayan!*" he grumbled softly, his small eyes disappearing between his bangs and chubby cheeks.

Meong heard the relief in *Lolo* Jose's voice. "Haay, thank you, you're an angel, Ramon," he said as he limped away. People in this little town called Meong's *tatay* an angel because he always helped people.



"COOL!" The strange voice came from a little girl in a red dress with matching red shoes. She had eyes so big they looked like two capital letter Os. She held a flashlight and hopped toward Meong's father.

"Yuk!" Meong murmured, blinking his still-sleepy eyes that were no more than two small slits. "She is dressed for a mall, not a farm," he thought.

He put on a faded shirt, shorts, and rubber shoes then went down to the chicken coop. When he got there, his *tatay* and the girl with a funny voice had moved to the garage beside the jeepney.

"Cool!" the girl gasped again when he saw the jeepney. Her big eyes became even bigger as she examined it with her flashlight. "What a cool car!"

"Ngek! That is not a car! That's an old, ugly jeepney!" Meong thought to himself.

"So shiny! Such lovely colors! It's the most beautiful car I've ever seen!" she raved.

"Ngiii! Wers, wers," Meong thought and frowned.

"This is called a jeepney," Ramon explained. "It's made entirely by hand. And it's found only in the Philippines. Each is one-of-a-kind."

"Cool!" she gasped again, her mouth also turning into a capital O like her eyes. "I wish we had jeepneys in England!"

"Oh, Meong," *tatay* Ramon said when he saw Meong behind him. "Come and meet Perlas."

"Puh-lie," she said, smiling brightly. "Call me Puhlie, short for Perlas. Hi, Mey-ong!"

"Mey-ong??!! My name's Meong, short for Romeo!" he thought. He did not say it aloud because he was not *wers-wers* like her.

"Okay, Pearlie, come up. This cool car will bring you to the farm!" Meong's father said teasingly.

Because it was still dark and there was not much to see, Pearlie spent her time shining her flashlight on the decor of the jeepney. "Cool!"

AFTER a few minutes, they stopped along hectares and hectares of ricefield. "Is this my *Lolo* Jozey's farm?" she asked, her eyes lighting up.

"Jose! Not Jo-zey," Meong corrected her quietly.

"Over there, yes," his father Ramon replied. "Over here is what I plant. This is where Meong helps me every morning."

"Cool!" Pearlie squeaked again and ran down the rice paddies. She looked up and saw the sky turning into a bright pink.

"Cool! Cool!" She fell off the *tambak* and landed on her butt. When she got up, she had mud all over her yet she said, "Coooool!"

Meong laughed silently but didn't want to open his mouth. "Gik, gik, gik!"

"Cool!" she said again when they reached the hill at the farm's edge. Up there, they were close to the waterfall flowing onto a brook. "I've never seen a pink waterfall and a pink brook before! Cool!"

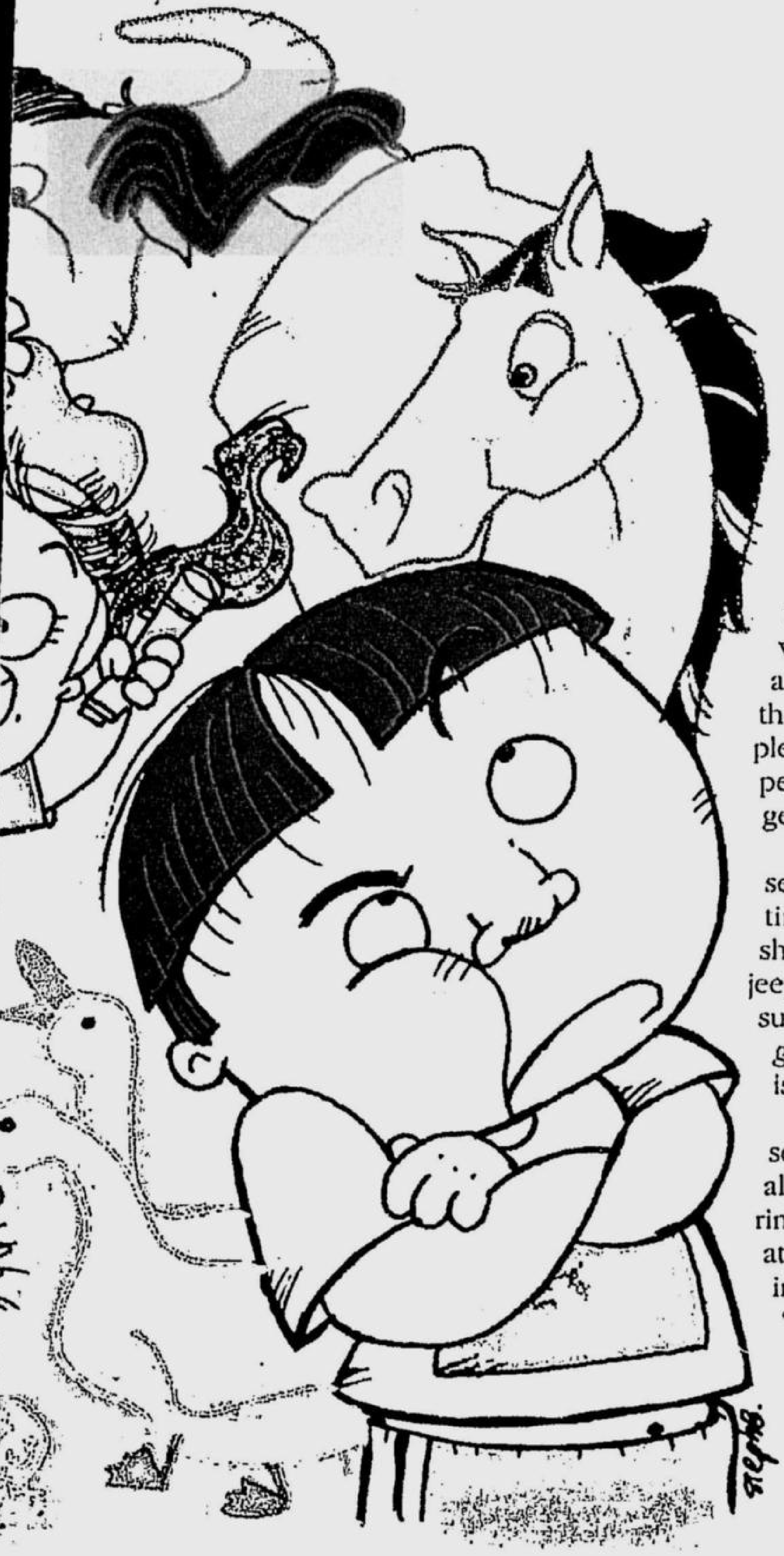
Meong looked at the waterfall, as though seeing it for the first time, too. "Yeah…the water looks pink because of the sun," Meong murmured. "I never noticed it before."

"Cool!" Pearlie yipped when she saw the sun rising from behind the clouds, which turned into pink as well. "Shhh. . ." she whispered. "Listen Mey-ong."

He listened. He heard a chorus of wonderful sounds and saw amazing movements: geese cackling, frogs leaping, pigs oinking, carabaos strolling, dogs barking, and children running. It was as though everyone in town woke up at the same time.

"Cool! Cool! Cool!" Pearlie squealed. "I've never seen or heard anything like this before. Cool!"

Meong tried to open his tiny eyes really wide,



turning them into two dots. Again, it was as though he was also seeing these everyday things for the first time in his life. "Yeah. . .everything looks great. I never noticed them before."

Meong's two dots looked at Pearlie's two capital Os which glowed like the sun, looking around and around. Then he said to himself, "I think she can see things I cannot see because her eyes are big. Mine are small."

"Meong! Pearlie!" Meong's father called them from under the acacia tree below. "Breakfast!" He had ripe mangoes, *suman* and *inangit* on the *papag*, and no spoons and forks.

"Native cakes?!" Meong murmured. "She won't like those! *Wers-wers* people eat spaghetti and French fries. And they don't eat with their hands!"

But Meong was wrong again. Pearlie washed her hands in the brook and ate hungrily and said, "Cool! Yummy!" Breakfast was gone in an instant.

LATER, as Meong and Pearlie were running back to the jeepney, Meong saw three farmers with worried faces rush to his father. He knew what his father was going to say, "No problem!"

FOR or BY KIDS

He said exactly that.

"You know, Mey-ong, your father is cool!" Pearlie said as he looked to where Ramon and the farmers were. "My *Lolo* Jo-zey said he is an angel!"

Meong looked at his father. The three farmers were all smiles now as his *tatay* was slapping their shoulders. This was always happened in the past, but this was the first time Meong understood why people really loved his *tatay*. "Yeah. . .he makes people smile. *Tatay* must really be an angel," Meong thought.

Pearlie giggled. "Hey, Mey-ong! I've seen so many cool things for the very first time today! Thank you! Thank you for showing me oodles of loverly things. The jeepney, the pink waterfall and brook, the sunrise, the sounds of the farm, the *manggah*, the *inang-get*. . .etcetera! This town is so cool! And you're cool!"

"Me, cool??!!" Meong was a bit confused so he hid behind the jeepney. He noticed all its bright paintings and the shiny silver rims. Then he sat inside and looked closely at the décor. It was as though he was seeing the jeepney for the first time in his life. "Yeah. . .Pearlie is right. This old thing looks really nice. I never noticed it before."

Meong put his chin on his hands and thought very hard about everything Pearlie just said. Yeah. . .Suddenly, he realized, "Yeah!" Today, he saw old things in a new way. What he thought ordinary, were really special. He learned to appreciate his *tatay* Ramon, the jeepney, the farm, and his many blessings. And for the first time today, Meong felt very happy. Exactly how he felt when he climbed trees and played *bolen* with his friends.

He jumped when he heard his *tatay's* voice. "Okay, Pearlie, are you ready? Meong and I will show you the rest of this town!"

"Cool!" Pearlie said, her big eyes flashing like a bulb.

Meong was just as excited now. Like his new *balikbayan* friend, he wanted to discover more new things today.

"Even if my eyes are small, I can see the same things her big eyes can see," he said to himself. Meong discovered that all eyes, no matter what size, are the same!

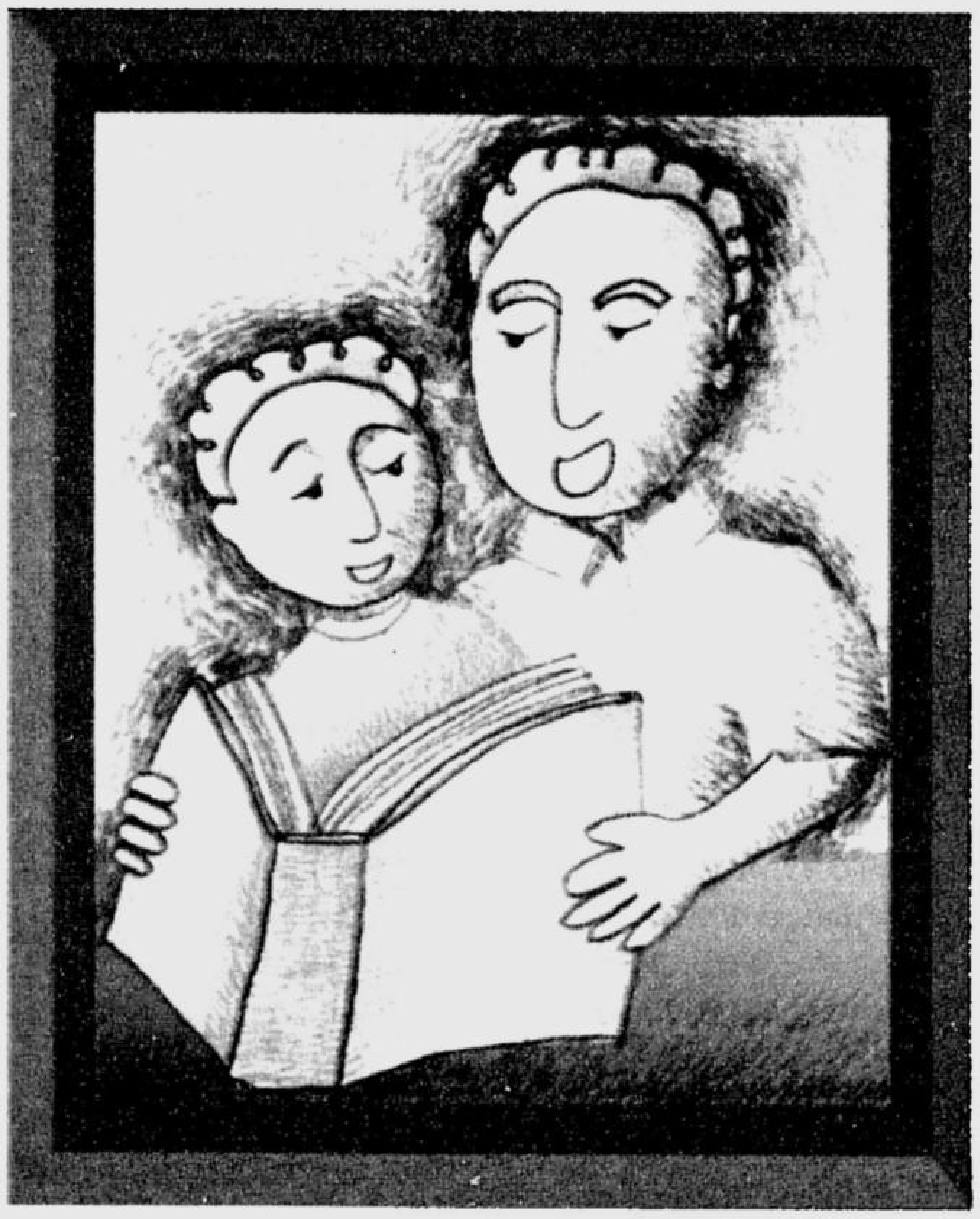
Suddenly, Meong's mouth blurted, "Cool!"

"Huh?!!" Pearlie and Meong's father were shocked. Silence.

Then all three of them laughed heartily.

***JC** is a software designer and does a lot of writing on the side.*

***Steph** is JI's staff artist.*



My Father... My Idol

A POEM BY
LARISSA ESPIRITU
ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JEFF LOPEZ

My father is a gentle
and loving man
Who finds time
for me as much
as he can.
He cheers me up
when I am sad
And hugs me tight
when I am glad.

My father is patient and hardworking
Who teaches me how to be loving and caring.
He shows his dedication to his family
By doing his work happily.

My father is a man of God and a man for others
Who serves in the community along
with other fathers and mothers.
He shows us that our world can be a better place
By doing our part in many ways.

***Larissa** lives in Cainta Rizal.*
***Jeff** is a member of Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan.*

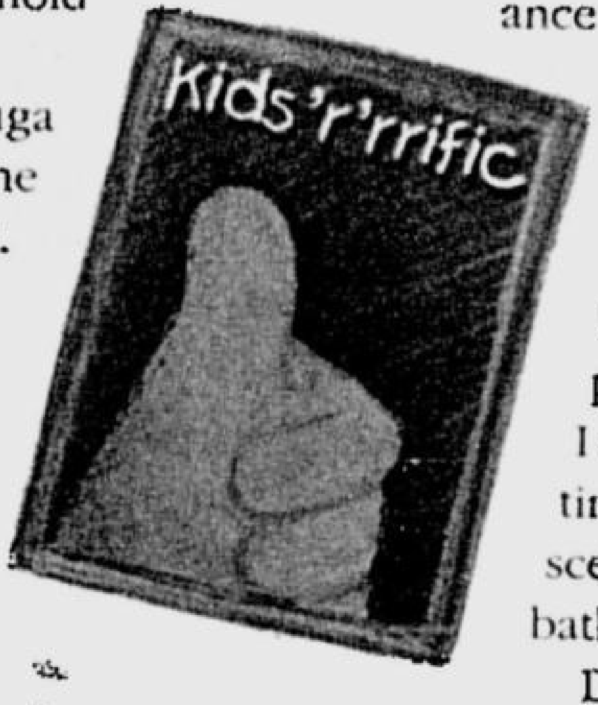
Hyper, Hyper Hans

Singer/stage actor Hans Dimayuga is all zip-zap-zoom for school, sports and performing like a pro

BY CHRISTINE C. RIVERO

"I'M the class OA," says Hans, chuckling and finding no trouble at all poking fun at himself. The way we see it, OA can stand for both "over-acting" and "over active," Hans being the kind of super-charged kid who'd bounce off the walls if gravity didn't hold him down.

Twelve-year-old Hans Patrick Dimayuga found an outlet for all that energy when he joined Repertory Philippines at the age of 8.



Mimic Master

"I auditioned for (the musical) 'South Pacific' and it started there," says Hans, referring to his budding theater career. He played a French boy and during his scenes, Hans had to speak and sing in French. "It was cool!" he says of his first role.

To make sure he got the accent right, Hans listened to a recording of the musical and mimicked the way his character sounded.

Now, mimicking things is something Hans started doing as soon as he realized he could make sounds. That's how he learned to sing the National Anthem at the age of 2. "I heard it when the TV channels signed off," he says.

Never having had any formal acting lessons, his mimicking skills came in handy again when he auditioned for another musical, Rep's production of "Oliver!"

"This time I needed a British accent," says Hans, "so I just watched the 'Oliver' movie and mimicked (the actors) again." Thanks to Hans' expert copycat ways, he ended up playing the musical's lead.

Tiiiiiiight schedule!!!

Hans has done other theater productions since and is raring to do more, even though rehearsals and playdates often fall on schooldays. That gives him heck of a time balancing his performance in school with his performance on-stage.

When he's rehearsing for Rep, for instance, Hans goes all the way from St. Benedict College in Alabang, where he studies, straight to the Rep stage in Mandaluyong. Rehearsals begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at midnight. "When I go home, I do my homework. I sleep at 1:30 a.m. Sometimes I do my homework in between my scenes so that when I get home, I just take a bath and sleep," he relates.

During those days, Hans would only get around four or five hours of sleep. Surprisingly, though, Hans did even better in school after he became active in theater. "His dad told him that if his grades suffered, no more Rep," Hans' mom explains, "he ended up becoming more disciplined!"

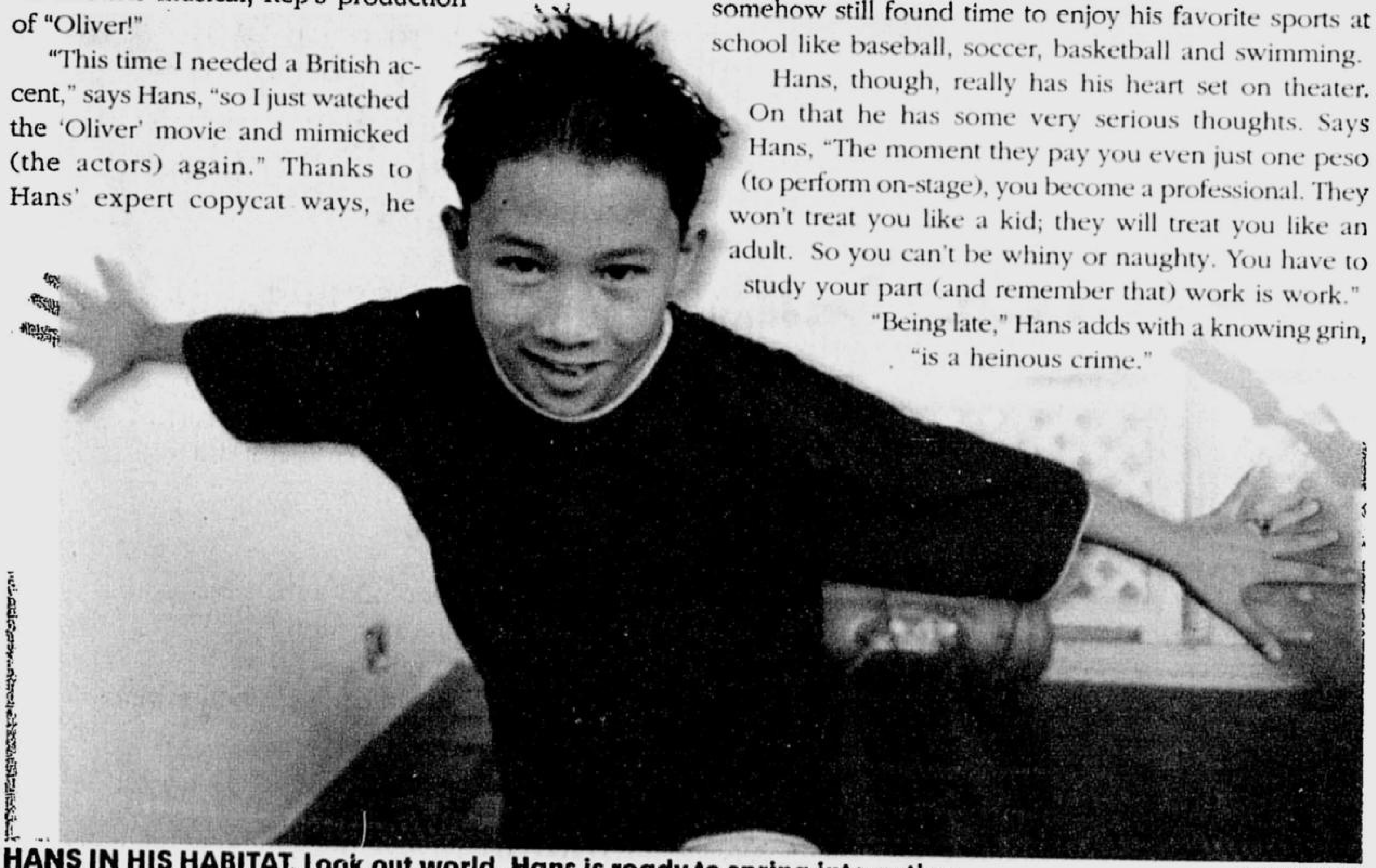
So disciplined that, once, Hans was absent 11 days from school because of a production and he still made it to his class' Top 10.

Advice from a Pro

Even with his hands full of scripts and textbooks, Hans somehow still found time to enjoy his favorite sports at school like baseball, soccer, basketball and swimming.

Hans, though, really has his heart set on theater. On that he has some very serious thoughts. Says Hans, "The moment they pay you even just one peso (to perform on-stage), you become a professional. They won't treat you like a kid; they will treat you like an adult. So you can't be whiny or naughty. You have to study your part (and remember that) work is work."

"Being late," Hans adds with a knowing grin, "is a heinous crime."



HANS IN HIS HABITAT. Look out world, Hans is ready to spring into action.

ROGER CARPIO

R'RRIFIC

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're `Rriffic' or know someone who is, fill out the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC' Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces cor.
Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a free Junior Inquirer T-shirt!

Kids 'r'rrific
nomination form

I nominate:

Age:

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because:
(Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

She/he lives at

and studies at

Her/his contact number is:

Sender's Name:

Sender's Age & School:

Sender's Address:

Sender's Contact No.

Guess What Jess...

For TV producer Jesusa Liwanag, life has always been full of surprises

By Christine C. Rivero

TAKE for instance, the day we called her up. "You want to interview ME?" Jess asked, a little out of breath, partly because she was out jogging. She couldn't believe her ears. "About what. . .poems and songs?!"

"I don't actually reveal that to a lot of people," says Jess of her writing. Twenty-seven-year-old Jesusa Liwanag, a producer for the ABS-CBN News Channel or ANC, writes articles for some magazines but she's never sent any of her poems for publication. She hasn't showed her songs either, except to a few good friends. For Jess, writing songs or poems is just something she does for fun.

"I love music," says Jess, "my parents love music, even our dog used to sing!" Songwriting, then, just sort of came naturally.

"It's all about emotion, it's all about feeling," she adds, "there would be some days I'd just sing out, 'I feel like I'm flying/ Don't know where I'm going. ..'"

It works the same for poetry, according to Jess, "I just write them down and (the ideas) flow. I don't even know why it's rhyming but it seems right."

Writing speeches and reciting them in front of a whole bunch of people is another thing Jess does for fun. "I just love motivating and inspiring people because I like being motivated and inspired myself," she says. Jess is a member of the worldwide public speaking club called Toastmasters International and this year she's going to represent the country in a prepared speech contest to be held in America.

Next year, she'll be going to Australia for further studies in Mass Communications and she calls it "another adventure in my life." Later on she hopes to return to the country and train other people who want to be in media too. Somewhere along the way, she wants to write a book, get married and have kids.

And maybe, just maybe, she'll show some of her songs to a record producer too. Says Jess, "You just have to be open to everything."

CHITO VEGINA

SECRET SONGWRITER. Oops, we spilled your secret now Jess!

Do you know a grown-up who

- is fun to be with
- has an exciting job
- keeps an amazing hobby
- is all of the above???

If you know a grown-up whom all kids will love, give him or her the stamp:

A.K.A. COOL

*Just fill out the nomination form below and tell us why your fave grown-up is the absolute coolest. If your nominee is chosen, **YOU'LL** get a free JI T-shirt! Now that's really cool.*

A.K.A. COOL
is an 'adult known as cool'
They're the folks
in our own family
Or the people
we meet in school.

I nominate ____________.
He/She is ____ years old and is
my ____________.
Here are five super solid reasons why I think you should write about him/her:
1)____________;
2)____________;
3)____________;
4)____________;
and
5)____________.
My nominee lives at____________
____________.
Give him/her a call at____________
____________ or send him/her an e-mail
at____________.
By the way, I'm____________
____________.
I'm ______ years old.
My address is
____________.
You may call me at
____________.

Zyrene, 15

Jeoffrey, 17

Kathryn, 14

Dianne, 12

Keith, 12

Meet Batch RTO!

BY MARGAUX ORTIZ

YOU'VE seen it on TV. You've heard it over the radio. You must have already even memorized its catchy jingle and asked yourself, what is Batch RTO? Who are these kids and what exactly do they intend to achieve?

On May 29, the people behind the popular soft drink Royal Tru-Orange finally revealed the identities of their five new "agents."

No, these young agents are not Charlie's Angels or James Bonds or even Spy Kids for that matter. They are but ordinary kids—the kind you could easily talk to or eat lunch with in school.

The five were chosen not because they had special talents and gifts, but simply because they could deal with day-to-day challenges with determination and enthusiasm.

They all have a zest for life and the four values of *karunungan* (always thirsting for new knowledge), *kaibigan* (a true friend in good times and bad), *kalusugan* (health in both mind and body) and *kabusayan* (utilizing his/her talents and abilities to secure a better future).

Because Kathryn Tan, Dianne Reyes, Keith Paras, Jeoffrey Estaris and Zyrene Parsad placed extra effort in improving themselves and the lives of the people around them, they were well on their way to become the first members of Batch RTO.

RTO's Newest Agents

Fourteen-year-old **Kathryn** of De La Salle Zobel lost her left arm in a school fair accident a few years ago. But instead of giving up on doing the things she loved to do, she bravely faced this challenge by trying out for her school's basketball team.

She made it despite the pessimism of cynics around her. Kathryn is now the star player of the school varsity team and a member of the WNCAA Mythical Five.

"To those handicapped kids like me who love doing what they do but don't have enough confidence: if you just believe in yourselves and have faith that God is there for you, you'll achieve your goals," Kathryn advises.

Practice, practice, practice

Keith, a 12-year-old artist, does not consider it a big deal that he has received over 20 awards in painting since third grade and that he is part of the elite circle of painters called the Saturday Group.

What's important to Keith is that he gets to do what he loves to do best: painting landscapes and still life.

Asked what advice he could give to other aspiring young painters, Keith grins, "It only takes practice. Even if you start out not knowing if you have the gift for painting, you should keep practicing and you'll get there.

Then he adds with a serious expression on his face, "But you shouldn't be too egotistical about it."

A JI kid!

Dianne—one of JI's Kids'r'rrific nominees—never imagined that the hobby she shared with a cousin would eventually turn into a flourishing business. The 12-year-old grade school student from St. Scholastica's College started Beadblastics (the name of their bead business) by selling a few creative trinkets to family and friends.

BATCH RTO just hanging out.

Soon more and more were clamoring for their handiwork. Dianne plans to donate their extra profits to charitable institutions and missionaries so "she could help the less fortunate ones in every way she can."

Young teacher

From singing psalms every Sunday at St. Andrew Church in Parañaque to impressing the judges with her performance during the 1999 Metropop Star Search finals, 15-year-old **Zyrene** believes that she is only giving back to God the gift He has given her.

"It is only right that I believe in myself and sing my best for Him who has gifted me with this voice," Zye says.

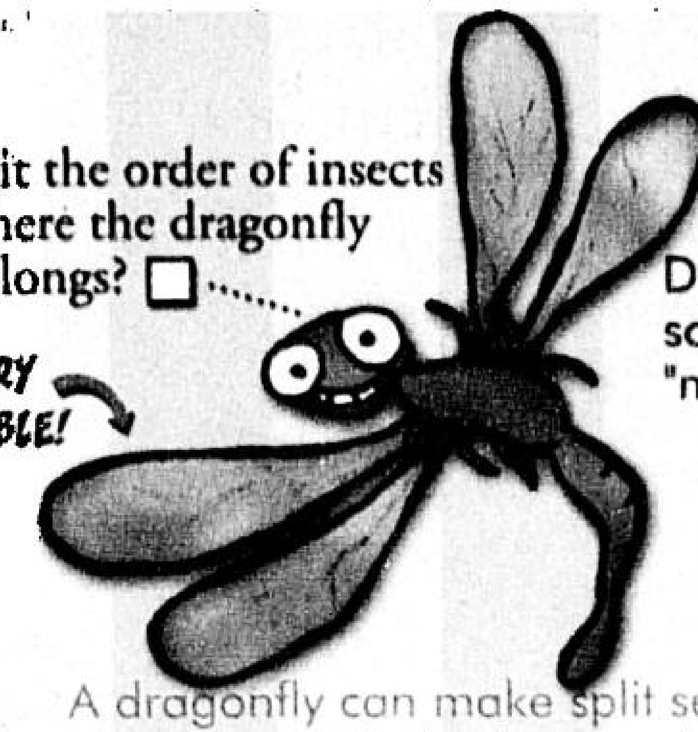
At 17, Xavier School's **Jeoffrey** is one of the country's youngest teachers. He is the curriculum head of ERDA, a teaching program for the young, and the English department head of PKK, another youth outreach education program.

"My friend and I got into this (teaching) without any reason," Jeoffrey recounts. "But the first time I stepped into the classroom, I knew I was going to enjoy teaching. I felt a deep sense of fulfillment when the kids I taught graduated in May."

Not everyone is gifted with extraordinary talents, but these kids have proven that you need not be a superhero to make a difference. Doing your best for yourself and for others can indeed be enough.

THE LUNCH BOX

by Katrina B. Villa


VERY FLEXIBLE!

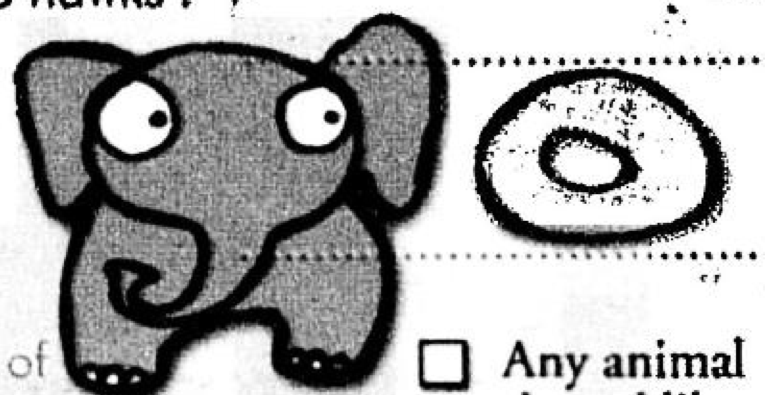
what is ODONATA

☑ your answer!

☐ Is it the order of insects where the dragonfly belongs?

Dragonflies are sometimes called "mosquito hawks".

A dragonfly can make split second changes in flight direction because of the rubberlike vein joints in its wings.



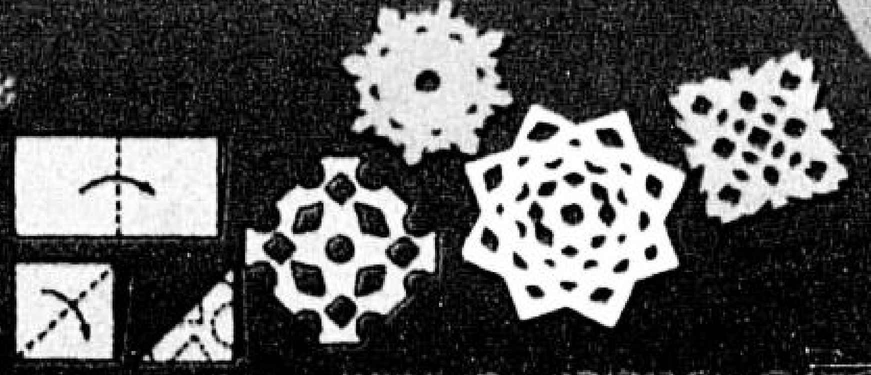
☐ Any animal shaped like a donut?

☐ Is it the scientific study of smelly shoes?

answer: ODONATA is the insect order comprising dragonflies and damselflies.

Dear Benjamin,
How are snowflakes formed?
Omni Belle R. Gruba, age 12
From Quezon City

Dear Belle,
Snowflakes are formed when water molecules arrange themselves as they crystallize (change from liquid to solid). Changes in temperature and humidity cause the ice crystals to branch off in different directions, resulting in that "lacey" appearance of snowflakes.
Thank you for writing! :) Benjamin



MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER SNOWFLAKES: FOLD A SQUARE PIECE OF PAPER INTO A TRIANGLE AS SHOWN. THEN CUT DIFFERENT SHAPES ALONG THE EDGES. UNFOLD TO REVEAL YOUR CREATION.

INSECT-I-FIND

search for the names of 8 insects!

H G R A S S H O P P E R V Y R
F W M O R T I P W J N S E K T
B D A H I E C O C K R O A C H
E N B S O R Y F S D A L N Q O
E X A L P M H R O E M O T H P
T L N V O I B U T E A U S M P
L C S E H T G R A S H O W S E
E B U T T E R F L Y R B E A R

beetle termite
butterfly ant
moth cockroach
grasshopper wasp

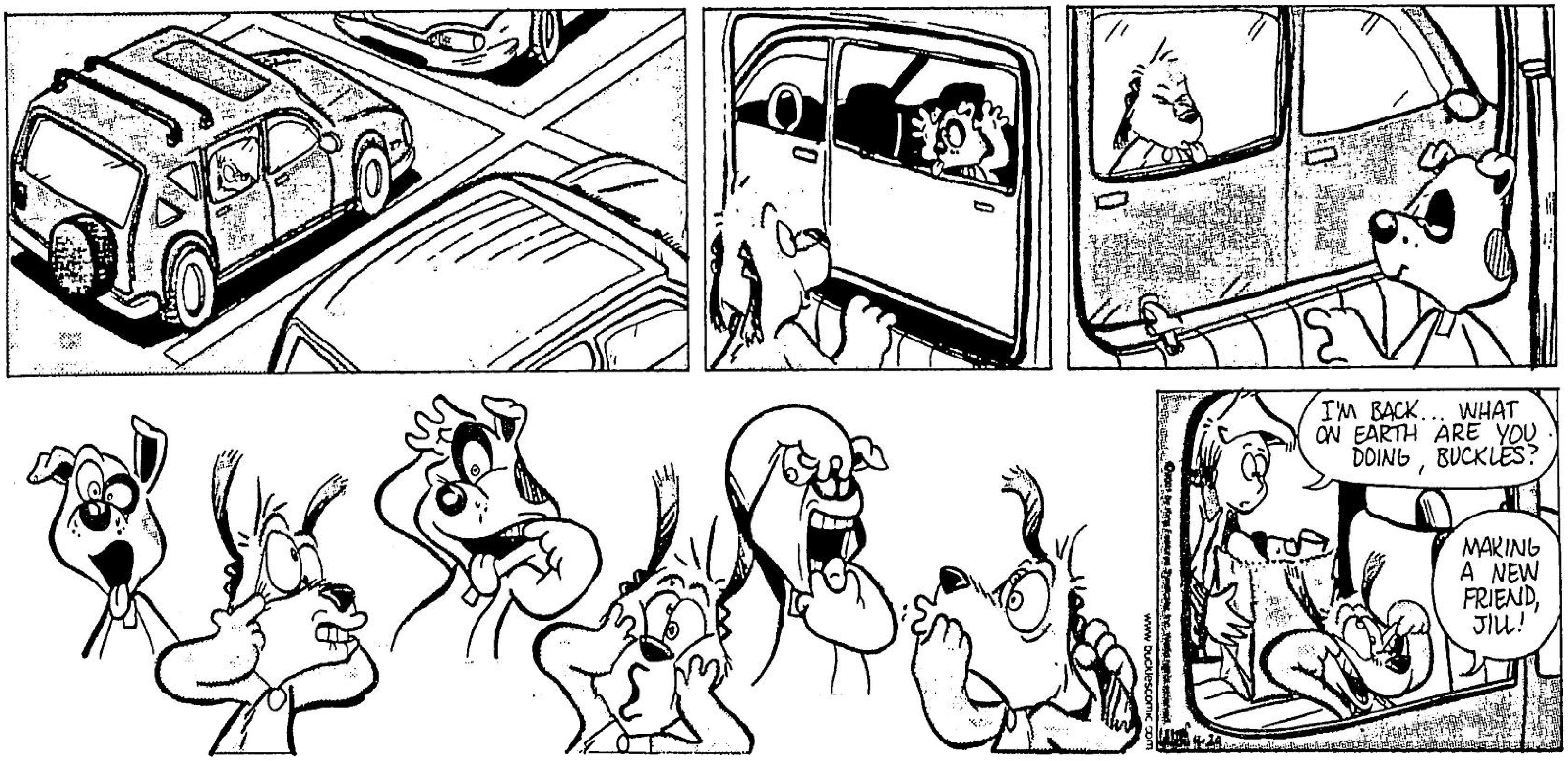
Insects are import
keeping nature in
They help in the
plants, serve as fo
animals, and some pr

Sound Familiar?

Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


I'M BACK... WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING, BUCKLES?
MAKING A NEW FRIEND, JILL!
www.bucklescomic.com

Tidal Giant Found!

(from page 1)

But the fossils of the four new dinosaurs Stromer uncovered were lost to the world during World War 2 when British warplanes bombed the Bayerische Staatssammlung museum during a raid over Munich on April 24, 1944. Stromer's excavation site remained largely ignored in the decades since then.

Tidal giant

Paralititan (pronounced pah-ral-ih-TY-tan and meaning "tidal giant") lived 94 million years ago during the middle of the Cretaceous period of the Mesozoic Era.

The long-necked, long-tailed quadruped looked much like the familiar *Brontosaurus* (formal name *Apatosaurus*) that lived tens of millions of years earlier, except that its back may have been studded with bony body armor as protection from predators.

The finding was published in the journal Science.

"It was an enormous dinosaur by anybody's reckoning," Smith, who was 29 when he found it, said in an interview.

He said one *Paralititan* would have weighed 70 tons and would have been as tall as four African elephants stacked on top of each other.

"It would look through a third-story window without much problem," he added.

Munched

Smith believes the massive herbivore was standing on the edge of a tidal channel in very shallow water when it died.

His team also found evidence that the carcass had been scavenged by a flesh-eating dinosaur, including a tooth that may come from *Carcharodontosaurus*, whose name means "shark-tooth lizard" and whose size, 13.5 meters long, was comparable to *Tyrannosaurus rex.*

It's unclear whether *Paralititan* lost a life-or-death struggle with the predator or became a meal after dying for other reasons, Smith said.

"All we know is that the animal died and somebody came along and munched on it."

Pure chance

Dumb luck played a role in the discovery, Smith admits. He and University of Pennsylvania graduate student Matthew Lamanna, who at age 25 is a co-author of the study, dreamed up the idea of finding the sites that had been so productive for Stromer, who worked there extensively starting in 1911.

Smith said in 1999 he tagged along on another Penn expedition to Egypt and was given all of two days to search for dinosaurs. Another problem was finding the Stromer's exact site because he did not leave behind any maps or directions.

Scientific literature found in Cairo pointed the way, but Smith ended up in the wrong place anyway. But as luck would have it, on Feb. 23, 1999, Smith spotted from the window of his Toyota Land Cruiser three pieces of *Paralititan's* forelimb.

He said he may have stumbled on "dinosaur heaven," adding: "Nobody thought for a second that we'd find anything, including me. *Paralititan* was the first thing we found the first morning we looked. It's just ridiculous."

Reuters

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN
CARTOONS ALL NIGHT LONG!

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with its very own dedicated Philippine feed.

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Come and join Dexter, Dee Dee, The Powerpuff Girls and other Cartoon Network stars for fun and games at our launch party. Just send in your name, age, address, tel. no. and name of your cable operator on a postcard and mail to: Cartoon Network's 24-hour launch party, PO Box 1807, Makati Central Post Office, 1250 Makati City, Philippines**

** Entries must be received by June 20, 2001.
* Each lucky winner gets 2 tickets.
*See posters for more details.

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SM Megamall (July 1, 2001)
Event schedules :
12pm, 2.30pm & 4.30pm (June 30)
and 12pm (July 1)
Tie-in partner :
SM SUPERMALLS